

The **H** *Magazine for the Christian Home*
Hearthstone



BERKELEY BAPTIST DIVINITY SCHOOL
SANDFORD FLEM' BRARY

Being a Family Is Fun—John Anderson Barbour

Growing Up in Christian Directions—Wilfred T. Packer

AUGUST, 1961—25c

The Magazine for the Christian Home Hearthstone

E. LEE NEAL, *Editor*

RUBY CRADDOCK, *Assistant Editor*

DOROTHY CLAYBOURNE, *Layout*

Contents

ARTICLES

Being a Family Is Fun (Article for Parents' Discussion Groups)	John Anderson Barbour	1
Growing Up in Christian Directions	Wilfred T. Packer	4
Drawing the Line for Teen-agers	Elaine Holcomb	10
Can Families Give Both Privacy and a Sense of Unity? (Article for Parents' Discussion Groups)	Marge Frank	19
Family Hobby	Jim and Edith Dean	22

STORIES

To Be Needed	Joyce Knudsen	7
Story for Children Janet's City Friend	Enola Chamberlin	18

FEATURES

Biblegram	Hilda E. Allen	6
This Is the Way We Did It	Christie Manson	9
Word Fun	Adelyn Jackson Richards	12
Family Worship		13
Meeting Plans for Parents' Discussion Groups		
1. Humor—Ingredient for Family Happiness	John Anderson Barbour	24
2. The Family Plays the Game	John Anderson Barbour	25
I. There Must Be Opportunity in the Family To Be Alone	Marge Frank	26
II. There Must Be Growth in the Family Toward Togetherness	Marge Frank	27
Family Counselor	Donald M. Maynard	29
Wild Flowers	Ollie James Robertson	30
Books for the Hearthside		31
Over the Back Fence		32
1 Corinthians 13 for Parents	Leona Frances Choy	Inside Back Cover

Cover Illustration by Art FitzSimmons

Published Jointly Each Month by

Christian Board of Publication

WILBUR H. CRAMELET, *President*
P.O. Box 179, St. Louis 66, Missouri

Vol. 13

Editorial Committee

Marvin E. Smith, *Director of Local Church Curriculum Division*
Jessie B. Carlson, *Children's Editor*
Ray L. Henthorne, *Youth Editor*
Sherman R. Hanson, *Assistant Youth Editor*
E. Lee Neal, *Adult and Family Life Editor*

The American Baptist Publication Society

RICHARD HOILAND, *Executive Secretary*
1703 Chestnut St., Philadelphia 3, Pa.

No. 8

Benjamin P. Browne, *Director Christian Publications*
Marian Brawn, *Children's Editor*
Dorothy I. Sill, *Asst. Children's Editor*
Berthold Jackstelt, *Youth Editor*
Francis E. Whiting, *Adult Editor*
Joseph J. Hanson, *Director Family Life*
Bruce E. Mills, *Secret Place Editor*

Second class postage paid at St. Louis, Missouri, and at additional mailing offices. All books and printed matter referred to in *Hearthstone* may be ordered from either publishing house. All prices are subject to change without notice.

The Scripture quotations are from the Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible, copyrighted by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A., 1946, 1952. Used by permission.

Price, 25 cents per single copy; five or more copies to one address, 20 cents each (60 cents per quarter); single subscription, \$3.00 per year. Foreign postage, except Mexico and Canada, 50 cents additional.

Copyright 1961 by the Christian Board of Publication and the American Baptist Publication Society

Printed in St. Louis, Mo., U. S. A.



Home—No Fun? When a national survey reveals that 59 per cent of the young persons never share in any recreation with their families, it is time to take a serious look at what parents can do to change this picture. John Anderson Barbour in his article "Being a Family Is Fun" provides some helpful approaches to family fun.

Growing Up. Christian parents will be interested in guiding their children's growth so that maximum Christian development can be attained at each stage. In doing this, it is helpful to understand the direction that growth characteristically takes at a particular age. Also, parents will want to know how they can affect growth. Wilfred T. Packer's article "Growing Up in Christian Directions" is very stimulating at these points.

Drawing the Line. From Elaine Holcomb, a parent of two teen-agers, comes the article "Drawing the Line for Teen-agers." "How do you know where to draw the line?" is a question frequently asked by parents who are seeking to be fair in their demands. Through the use of questions asked of teen-agers, Mrs. Holcomb presents their opinions on the subject, and why they hold such opinions. If the decision on curfew and related decisions are your concerns, this article is recommended to help you see the deeper issues involved.

Privacy and Togetherness. This is a combination that families can go for. Marge Frank raises the "why's" and gives some "how to's" in "Can Families Give Both Privacy and a Sense of Unity?"



The Cover. August is the time for backyard picnics. Everyone enjoys picnic and the accompanying fun. We hope you are taking time to enjoy picnics too.

Coming Soon. "Who Makes the Family's Laws?" by James A. Stringham; "A Christian's Vocation" by Warner Muir; "The Meaning of Discipline" by Dorothy B. Fritz; "Self-reliance Rather Than Self-expression" by Marjorie King Garrison; and others.

Until then,
R. C.

Being a Family Is Fun



by John Anderson Barbour

Spend time together as a family Now!

Special times of camping, vacationing, or other outings are an aid to helping the family enjoy one another, and each other's interest.

—Eastern Photos



JANET STARED INSOLENTLY AT THE JUDGE, as he repeated his question.

"Why is it," he demanded, "that a fourteen-year-old like you spends so much of her time in a place like the one where we picked you up?"

Janet and five other girls ranging in age from fourteen to sixteen had been picked up at two in the morning in a disreputable roadhouse in a large eastern city. Now at 10:30 the following morning they stood before a juvenile court judge. Their bewildered parents also were present, and Janet's mother and father visibly cringed as their daughter said, "I want to have a good time. I can't have any fun at home. My mother and father always want me out of the house. Where else could I go?"

Janet unfortunately had never had the opportunity to discover that being a family can be fun. According to a national survey, 59 per cent of young boys and girls never take a drive or share any recreation with their families. A Mayo Clinic medic made the statement several years ago that "the home as the social center has disappeared."

There are encouraging signs, however, that many parents are re-exploring the pathways of palship. There are reports of a "Family Fun with Music" workshop in a city in upper New York

The author is Executive Secretary, North Dakota Baptist State Conventions.



Once a week, try having a "Family Game Night."

State. Family recreation programs have been started by a Jewish Center in New Jersey and by a school of art in Minneapolis.

Most parents can think back on good times enjoyed with their parents. I recall evenings in my youth when my three sisters and I gathered around the piano in the living room. Mother played the piano (Dad accompanied on his violin) and we sang "Old Black Joe," and, because we were Irish, inevitably, "O Danny Boy." We enjoyed singing hymns. Sometimes we spent an evening of reading around a stove that glowed a ruddy red in its efforts to keep the sub-zero winter outside the walls of our home.

Fun in many forms plays a vital role in the well-being of the family. To paraphrase a well-known slogan—"The family that plays together, stays together."

The laughter of a five-year-old and the giggles of a teen-age girl often serve as safety valves, relieving the tensions which can develop in any closely knit social group such as the family. For example, Dad had had a difficult time at the office. The figures in the contract he was drawing up

just would not come out right. For Mother, too, it was just one of those days—the cake had fallen in the oven and the roast had been scorched. She was a bundle of nerves when she opened the door for her husband and her greeting was perfunctory—almost curt. It was little David who saved the day. He took that moment to come out of the bathroom where he had been dangerously quiet. He had found a tube of shaving cream which he had used to good advantage to give himself a set of thick snow-white whiskers. He was a ludicrous sight . . . and in spite of weariness his mother and dad burst into laughter. The tensions of the day were eased perceptibly.

A family I know ranks among the happiest of my acquaintance. They find good fun in almost every occasion. Christmas dinner at their home this past year was quite an experience. As the Mother busied herself in the kitchen, the oldest daughter put the finishing touches on one of the largest turkeys I have ever seen, and the second daughter worked mysteriously with a pile of magazines and a pair of scissors. We

were not permitted even a peep at her handiwork. The results of her labor were soon known to us as we sat down to eat. Before each place at the table was a place card and inside the folded card a cartoon chosen with uncanny appropriateness.

After dinner we sat around the living room, singing carols and hymns as the son played the piano for us. Our harmonizing was slightly off key in places, but it was fun.

There is another value in being able to see the funny side of things. A good-natured gibe by a big brother at a sister who is putting on too much airs can help to keep an ego in place. However, members of a family cannot laugh at each other who have never first had many good times laughing *with* each other.

A word of caution. Humor can hurt as well as help. There is no place for what my mother often called the "joke with a jab in it." Sometimes a younger sister or brother is the target of ill-chosen remarks of older brothers and sisters. I can think of one family where the older members of the teen-aged set poked fun at a younger sister who was passing through an awkward stage. If she was setting the table, a dish was almost sure to drop on the floor. If she was reaching for the salt at a meal, she invariably upset her glass of milk. Her feet seemed to get in her way—to trip her as she walked. It was so easy to laugh at her. So much so that long after she had outgrown her awkwardness, she was still a hypersensitive person with an inferiority complex.

There are many ways a family can have fun together. Naturally age is a factor. Participation should be such that it does not cause undue physical or emotional strain on younger or older members of the family.

In the warm weather a picnic is always fun. Let members of the family take turns planning the menu for the picnic and its location. It is not always necessary to bundle into the family car and travel many miles to have a picnic. Increasingly the backyard is be-

coming a popular place for outdoor family living. Make the next family project the building of a barbecue pit. Then tantalize the neighbors with the aroma of charcoal-broiled wieners or hamburgers or on extra special occasions—steaks!

The backyard is good for other things. Have you ever discovered the pleasure to be derived from a modest investment in a croquet set? When you tire of croquet you might want to try badminton.

A family, instead of going away on a summer trip, invested their vacation money in a family-sized swimming pool. They have become the envy of their Midwest neighbors.

You might try an educational tour of your home state. Have the young persons in your household plan the tour. The publicity bureau in your state will be more than happy to provide literature and even assist in planning the tour. Some newspapers like the *St. Paul Dispatch*, St. Paul, Minnesota, in vacation issues, publish "State Tour Guides" with thumbnail sketches of the "must see" places along the routes suggested.

As a family, you might visit the state fair and the parks of your community. Go, as a family, to

the circus or attend other entertainment that comes to town.

Perhaps you may wish to organize a family *Hobby Club*. Arrange every week or two, as a family, to spend a night working on hobbies. Some friends of ours are interested in philately. Mother, father and their fifteen-year-old son are ardent stamp collectors. The highlight of a visit last year to New York was time spent browsing along Nassau Street where the stamp-sellers are to be found. The mother has a magnificent collection of "flower" stamps from all over the world. The son specializes in German stamps and the father has a valuable collection of United Nations stamps. As a family, they look forward to the monthly meeting of philatelists in the city where they live.

With you it might not be stamps. It might be matchbook covers, postmarks, a collection of bells—

Maybe, though, you are not a collector.

Why not a regular family "Game Night." Among the vivid memories of Edwin T. Dahlberg, pastor of the Delmar Baptist Church in St. Louis, Missouri, and former president of the Na-

tional Council of Churches, are "the family play nights." At the time, he recalls, their family consisted of a junior in high school, a boy in fifth grade and a child in kindergarten. Quite on the spur of the moment one night, a curtain was hung between the dining room and the living room. "Mother was the audience, just one paid admission in a sea of chairs," recalls Dr. Dahlberg.

The first act was a style show. This was followed by an automobile show (the five-year-old's collection of toy cars). The climax was planned, says Dr. Dahlberg, for the exact moment when, according to the evening paper, the sun would cross the equator, producing equinox. With the curtains crossed, the oldest boy slowly moved a big yellow cardboard disk up above the *horizon*, described a majestic arc, and let it down slowly behind the curtain just as sister began to play Mendelssohn's "Spring Song." Only the family that plays together can reach into the box of memory in later years and find treasures like that.

I am sure that the family at Nazareth knew what it was to play together in the evenings after the carpenter shop was closed.

(Continued on page 28)

—Photo by erb



Both parents participating in the play makes it extra-special fun time.



GROWING UP

In Christian Directions

by Wilfred T. Packer

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man. (Luke 2:52.)

These few words give us a vivid picture of growth. They indicate the kind of development all children should have, and Christian parents are given the privilege of setting the stage and acting as guides for this kind of development in their children.

It needs to be pointed out that these four facets of growth—the physical, mental, social, and spirit-

ual—cannot be divided into neat separate packages. Modern psychology thinks in terms of the total personality with the various elements intricately interwoven. From a Christian point of view, religious concepts, attitudes, and practices in daily living need to permeate all aspects of a child's personality. In this article, we call attention to a few important ideas in regard to the growth of children in the setting of a warm, loving Christian home.



—Clark and Clark

—Photo by erb



Make your home a hospitable place where the children's friends are welcome, and can enjoy their pursuits whether radio, records, TV, or dolls.

It is an awesome thing to watch a child develop, impelled to grow by a mysterious inner force—God's vitalizing energy. This growth does not climb steadily upward, however. It can be described best as a spiral. Sometimes a child seems to grow in spurts; then there will be a leveling-off period or possible retrogressions. In this normal process of growth there will be periods when the child seems poised and sweetly reasonable, and also periods when he is crosswise with himself and everybody else. There are definite times when he seems to turn to his mother, then to his father, sometimes to both, sometimes to neither. Of course, all children are different and not two at the age of six, for instance, act exactly alike. All do exhibit, however, some of the general characteristics of a six-year-old.

Parents can save themselves great mental anguish if they understand the direction that growth characteristically takes at a particular age. For example, the knowledge that a young child may say "No" in response to all questions and requests does not necessarily mean that he is willful and bad tempered. Rather it may show his new-found ability to talk and demonstrate the ease of uttering this word. Recognizing this phase of growth, the parent can

The author is a Professor at Alderson-Broadus College, Philippi, West Virginia.

relax and ignore the brief period of negativism.

Parents need to co-operate *with* the laws of growth—not struggle *against* them—using common sense and understanding in dealing with children at different ages. When a child feels good about himself, is outgoing and extremely confidential, he is receptive to suggestions and much good informal training can take place. On the other hand, when he dislikes and is at odds with himself, is silent and secretive, this is a poor time to treat him with unbending sternness.

The task of the parent is to help the child to be the best kind of person he can possibly be *at that age*. Psychologists tell us that every child at each stage of development has certain tasks of growth that he must care for at that stage. If he fails in this, he carries over undeveloped patterns into later years—even into adulthood. We all have witnessed a full-grown man throwing a child's temper tantrum. Providing opportunity and encouragement so he can accomplish his tasks at each stage of development is one way to help him to be his best.

All aspects of a child's growth are affected by the quality—and quantity—of his parents' love for him. If a father does not truly love his child, that child's religious concepts are very likely to be warped. How can God the loving Father mean much to a child whose earthly father has put him on a starvation diet of affection?

Parents need to be sure that their children from babyhood through adolescence and on into adulthood are deeply loved. Often good people fail at this point. A father may inwardly resent the fact that his child's mother no longer can give him attention as exclusive as he craves, and so he unconsciously fails to give his child real affection. A young child who has been the apple of his parents' eye suddenly finds that they are so engrossed with his baby sister that he feels deserted in a cold and loveless world. Parents may be so interested in their own good times that they really feel that their chil-

dren are social hindrances and treat them accordingly—in spite of honeyed words. Some parents shower gifts upon their children as cheap substitutes for love. Religious parents sometimes are so eager to mold their children according to a stern adult standard that they fail to love them as the very interesting and delightful children that they are. Many of us are so busy that we have no time for our children. With love-starved eyes they watch our merry-go-round, wondering if we are ever going to stop long enough to answer their love-needs.

Every child probably needs a time in every day when he is the center of each parent's love and attention. It does not need to be a long time, but he needs to know that it is his time because he is loved. When he has misbehaved and has had to be disciplined, he desperately needs to know that his

parents have not rejected him but still love him in spite of his deed. Then parental love becomes truly redemptive. If parents want their child to grow in all aspects of his personality, *he must know himself secure in their love.*

Every child learns by imitation, by seeing ideas and ideals lived out in other people. For parents this means that the most likely means of assuring their child's four-fold growth is to give continually a living demonstration of that kind of growth to their children. Do you want your child to think in Christian terms of the body as a dwelling place of the Holy Spirit? Parents' attitudes toward the sacredness of the body will largely be the attitudes of their children. Do you want your child to develop his mental abilities? If parents are interested in books, engage in intellectually stimulating conversation, make intelligent evaluations

Every day the child needs some time of special attention.
Fathers as well as Mothers can give that special time.

—A. Devaney, Inc., N. Y.



of TV programs, exhibit interest in finding out all they can about various aspects of life around them, then the probability is that their children will be mentally stimulated.

Have the parents made home a hospitable place? Do neighbors like to drop in? Are the children's friends welcome? Does the home show compassion toward unfortunate people? Does it enter into worthy, helpful projects? Are people of other nationality or race made welcome in the home? Affirmative answers to questions like these make for a home environ-

ment conducive to well-rounded development.

It is most important in the spiritual growth of children that parents become an incarnation of what it means to be a Christian in the varied circumstances of life. From babyhood children need to know that their parents believe in God, that they pray, that seeking to be Christian in thought and action is a central motivation for Mother and Dad. Wholesome parental attitudes toward the church and constructive participation in its life are imperative if a child is to have a satisfying and challeng-

ing church life. Children readily take on their parents' attitudes toward other people. No amount of admonition will take the place of significant Christian living on the part of the parents.

These suggestions are ways to help children to increase "in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man"—to grow as well-rounded individuals in a Christian context. We might summarize by saying that our children need our understanding, our love, and our willingness to set, not perfect, but worthy examples of constructive Christian faith and living.

bIBLEGRAM

by Hilda E. Allen

Guess the words defined below and write them over their numbered dashes. Then transfer each letter to the correspondingly numbered square in the pattern. The dark squares indicate word endings.

Reading from left to right, you will find that the completed pattern will contain a selected quotation from the Bible.

A Cream for the hands and face	1 22 13 49 40 60
B One of Dad's golf clubs	116 7 112 34 51
C Longer than square	57 39 110 28 76 58
D Simpleton	47 16 82 69 107
E Sitting Bull was one	5 15 66 87 94 80
F What authors do	91 114 96 119 24
G Become a member of some association	30 77 10 100
H It runs on rails	29 55 59 18 92
I Floating channel marker	109 35 85 95
J Alaska is a new one	26 84 8 43 71
K Tract of densely growing trees	120 2 56 117 36 48
L King or Queen, for instance	63 45 33 11 64
M Sheltered corners or angles in a house	27 52 90 17 50
N Guided the car	20 104 73 23 115

O Female relatives	14 65 118 88 6
P Second hand	121 81 111 72
Q Fierce, dog-like animals	93 37 46 70 4 89
R Road of the old frontier days	53 38 54 103 68
S To be urgent or demanding	79 19 42 25 75 9
T One who casts a ballot	3 62 78 31 105
U Skinny	21 67 41 86
V One of a set of steps	83 61 32 106 113
W Lady's shoulder wrap	99 97 101 122 74
X Dim	44 108 98 12 102


(Solution on page 28)

		1	2	3	4		5	6		7	8
9	10	11	12	13		14	15	16		17	18
19	20		21	22	23	24		25	26		27
28	29		30	31	32	33	34	35	36		37
38		39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46		47
48		49	50		51	52	53		54	55	56
57	58	59	60	61		62	63		64	65	66
67		68	69	70	71		72	73	74	75	
76	77	78		79	80	81	82	83	84		85
86		87	88	89		90	91	92		93	94
95		96	97		98	99		100	101	102	
103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111		112	113
	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122		

TO BE NEEDED

by Joyce Knudsen

ILLUSTRATED BY ART FITZSIMMONS



IT WAS ALMOST THE LAST AFFRONT to Mary's strength when Mrs. Gilmour telephoned to ask with offensively bright cheer, "Well, and how are all the little red spots today?"

Mary leaned her aching back against the hall wall, nearly as exhausted as the little boy in the sick-room. "We think the crisis is past, thanks—at least the danger to his eyes and ears seems to be over."

Mrs. Gilmour laughed brightly,

The author is a free-lance writer from Coburg, Ontario, Canada.

"Oh, my dear, surely you didn't take measles all that seriously! Why, these days it's no worse than a bad cold. All the antibiotics, you know. . . ."

Mary took a deep breath. "Mrs. Gilmour, he was allergic to them. That's one reason why he had such a bad time. He is a little better now, thanks. We can all begin to catch up now."

"Of course you can, dear. Another few days and he'll be out dashing all over the place."

Not that boy, Mary thought as

"He is a little better now, thanks."

she brought the unsatisfactory conversation to a close. Not after a bout like that one. At least a week of bed convalescence, the doctor had said, and another two weeks of quiet house rest after that. Three more weeks of seclusion and rules and inactivity for a high-spirited little boy of seven. She got up and went to the darkened room where he was beginning to wriggle restlessly under the blanket.

His voice was weak but clearly he was feeling better. "Can't Brian come in and play with me, Mom?"

"June and Brian have to try and keep away from you, Bim. We're all supposed to be sort of quarantined. Well, that means we're not to mix with other people. I know, Daddy goes to work, but

TO BE NEEDED



he has to."

She wiped his face, promised him some amusement in a minute, and went to the kitchen. Ignoring the piled-up breakfast dishes, she spread salt in a deep baking pan, found a few of Bim's miniature plastic cars, took the play tray back to him, and prayed a silent prayer that the pan would stay right side up.

In the beginning, in the first days of worrying and closeness, eleven-year-old June had enthusiastically washed all the dishes and promised to help with the housework. At nine, Brian couldn't quite see what all the fuss was about, but he agreed to do the drying. That was a week ago. For two days now it had been necessary to remind them firmly. Mary stood in the center of the little bungalow, wondering where to begin. All this accumulated work, her aching fatigue from the sleepless nights, her own doctor's appointment this afternoon. Her hands began to shake at thought of the appointment.

By two o'clock June and Brian had helped with the housework and promised to amuse themselves quietly for the hour their mother would be away. At four o'clock Mary stepped out of the doctor's office, her hands no longer shaking, for now there was no doubt about it and there was nothing to do but somehow become resigned. Thirty-nine she was now, with their family complete, three husky, noisy, boisterous dear children, and now the Lord was sending another one.

Everything would be fine, Dr. Haskell had said heartily. Just in her prime as a mother.

I'm not, she rebelled. I've had the babies and now it's the time to have growing-up children. Three lovely normal youngsters, slangy and affectionate and ceaselessly demanding. She and Len had felt a little sorry for couples who were blessed with only one or two children. They had love enough for more, and three was a wonderful family.

Even three had taxed their resources to the utmost. Four children would mean another bedroom, heavier responsibility for Len, the bearing and caring for a tiny baby when she was nearly middle-aged. A new stock of diapers again, colic and teething, far less time for June, Brian, and Bim—seven full years since the last baby!

There was only minor mayhem when she arrived home. The next-door neighbor had looked in, given Bim his medicine, and kept him comfortable. June, in an excess of helpfulness, had tried to make an elaborate jelly dessert for supper. Three flavors of jelly spilled and cluttered the kitchen counter, bits of walnut and coconut were walked into the linoleum, and June was looking strained, trying to remember whether one greased the molds with lard or olive oil. Brian had stayed out of mischief, confining himself to sprawling on the living room rug with his entire collection of comics distributed on the floor.

They cleared the house before Len came home for supper. While Mary prepared the meal, she told him in monosyllables the result of the visit. He stood by the refrigerator, fiddling with a stick of celery and watching her quick movements.

"Too bad this should come when you're run down from Bim's sickness, Mary."

She looked up. "But it's more than just that!"

He said nothing more, but squeezed her arm and helped her carry the serving dishes to the table. Bim had slept during the afternoon and was having his supper a little

later. For the first time in days, Mary could sit at the table with her family.

Len said quietly, "I know we all agreed it might be too expensive to take a real vacation this summer, but Mom's not feeling too well after Bim's sickness and it ought to do us all good to get away, even if it's only for a week."

It would have been too late to find accommodation at a resort, which they could not afford, anyway. Help came from an unexpected source. Mrs. Gilmour stopped Len on his way home from work and said, "I hear you'd like to take the family away for a break. Maybe you'd be interested in the place where Mr. Gilmour and I went last summer. . . ."

* * *

Miss Annie Armour turned out to be an energetic little white-haired spinster with a hunched lumpy figure and an almost brutally homely face that one forgot the instant she looked up and beamed shyly. She beamed a good deal during the last week in August. She liked children and she was glad the nice Mitchell couple had brought their three youngsters. This was a plain fishing district, with none of the frills of vacation resorts, and most of her guests were silent men who were dedicated fishermen.

To Mary, the little farmhouse in the country would have been a novelty and a delight—if she had been able to feel real delight in anything at this time. She could feel deep relief that Bim was gaining back some of his lost weight. She could try to forget the necessary tight budgeting when she saw the benefit this week's vacation was bringing to her family. However, none of it was really enough to erase the dreadful sensation that this interlude was like dangling candy before a child. It wasn't real, this week. The reality was the everyday sameness of demands upon one's strength and vitality, demands that would only increase and increase.

Reading to Bim in the sun on the front porch, she would find a part of her mind thinking over and over, "*There's no let-up. I had*

such plans to be with the older children from now on." When the children were occupied, she would go and talk to Annie. They had tried to call her Miss Armour, the first day, but she protested self-consciously, "Oh my, everyone calls me Annie. Don't you go calling me Miss Armour."

Her home was a simple, old-fashioned house and in it she had learned to cook with skill and ease. Mary enjoyed the pleasure of watching Annie's gnarled fingers working skillfully with outdated utensils and plain ingredients. Annie, in turn, was delighted to have the companionship of another woman.

"Course now, winters I sometimes get a mite tired of women-folk. My daddy left me only the house, so winters I go into town and keep house for the Ritchie ladies. There's three of them and they live together in the old part of town. They have a real quiet life. They don't even have the summers like I do, meeting new people all the time."

"You go to keep house for them every winter, Annie?" Mary asked. Annie's pale eyes twinkled.

"Well, now, I don't mind telling you, sometimes come fall I don't feel too much like closing up the house and going into town, but I stop to think how lucky I am, having a job to go to. The Ritchie ladies can't pay more than a little bit—but there's my room there and they need someone. And you know, the Lord favors me—" she looked up smiling, "I don't feel near my age!"

The astonishing thing was that Annie sincerely believed her life was full and good. Her contentment drew the Mitchells' to her. When, all too soon, the last evening of their week arrived, Len and Mary sat with her on the screened front porch after the children were in bed. Len told her how they had enjoyed the week.

"Mary has her hands full even normally, but then Bim was so sick, and now we're expecting an addition—it's meant a lot to give her even a little rest."

Far from being embarrassed, Annie was delighted. "Well now, really—another little one! My, aren't you lucky? Three fine children like that, and now another little baby."

Mary smiled. "I know it's entirely the wrong way to think, Annie, but it hardly seems a blessing this time. I'm not so young now, and we thought three was our whole family."

The rough boards creaked softly as Annie rocked in the wooden rocker that had probably been in her family for forty years. "Funny, Miz Mitchell, you saying you're not so young. I mind how I felt the same. Only it was when a young man came courting years ago."

Len and Mary glanced at one another in the dark. They had simply taken for granted that poor homely Annie had never attracted a swain.

Annie was willing now to tell of a time she had always kept in her heart. "My Mamma had passed on when I was a girl so I kept house for Daddy. This place had land and a farm then. I met a young man at a church social, and you know—" her voice reflected her pleasure at the memory, "he came courting. I liked him fine and it seemed like my daddy took to him, too. However, as soon as

(Continued on page 28)

This Is the Way We Did It . . .

by Christie Monson



OUR HIGH SCHOOL SON was expanding his financial ventures to speed up his college fund. There was the paper route, the magazine agency, the church janitor job, and the week-end helping on farms.

We were glad he showed interest in helping himself. We tried various ways to help him record the several projects so he could properly evaluate them.

After a trial-and-error process, we had these results that may be of help to others. One drawer was allotted to him, for his own, in which to keep his records. A large looseleaf notebook with unruled and ruled paper as well as large envelopes with side openings were purchased. The envelopes were labeled Herald, Magazines, and Personal. When our son learned to put bills, receipts, and lists in proper envelopes, at once, he was able to find them

at a moment's notice. He learned the importance of checking the files regularly to avoid a clutter of old material that hindered his goal of efficiency.

As he made deposits at the bank, he designated each with a letter as a reminder of the source of income. So *M* meant magazine. *H* was for *Herald*, *J* for janitor work at church, *F* for farm. Thus when checking his bank statements at the end of each month it took but a moment to review the financial story of the past period. The sheets between each envelope were detailed report sheets for each month.

It seemed a great deal of bother at first, but our son has learned the value of keeping complete records. Now it takes but a few moments at the end of the year to check each sheet, add the total, subtract his church giving, and see what the over-all story of the year is for him in dollars and cents.

Drawing the Line for Teen-agers

by Elaine Holcomb



"How do you know where 'to draw the line'?" The mother of a teen-age daughter asked this question. The question indicates some wishful thinking, a desire for a definite answer, and also this mother's belief that she should set some definite restrictions upon her daughter's activities.

According to a dictionary "to draw the line" denotes "using force in requiring one to follow definite limitations." This, of course, would deny the one being forced any power of choice or independence. Perhaps this mother was not thinking in such drastic terms. However, she was concerned, as are many parents of teen-agers, in knowing what limitations she should place upon the activities of her adolescents.

If parents were to depend upon the teen-agers in our churches to determine whether or not mothers and fathers should set definite limits or restrictions on what their sons and daughters do, where they go and what time they return, there might be some confusion. Recently over 1200 high-school students were questioned about this matter. Forty-eight per cent of the young people said that they did not want restrictions. Forty-five per cent insisted that they did. The other seven per cent either did not answer or felt that:

"It all depends."

So it seems that the young people are rather equally divided on this issue.

It is interesting to note why some adolescents feel lines should be drawn for them. A seventeen-year-old boy stated:

"Yes, kids want authority as much as freedom."

Another senior-high boy explained:

"We need to learn now to live by rules, because everywhere in the world, there are always laws and rules one must obey in order to insure himself a better way of life."

A junior-high girl expressed the view that freedom must not be a blank check. She said:

"I like to have some freedom, but freedom has limits."

From a junior high came the opinion:

"Certain restrictions make you feel that you are doing right."

A desire for security seemed to be a dominant factor in the motivations of the young people who said that they wanted limitations. This can be illustrated by the five most typical and frequent answers of this group. They wanted their parents to draw some lines and set some limits because:

"It shows that they love and are interested in me."

"It gives me a guide to go by."

"Teen-agers need restrictions."

"Parents have had more experience and know what is best."

"It keeps me out of trouble."

The longings of many teen-agers for parental love and interest were expressed by a senior girl. She declared:

"It gives me a feeling of security, and makes me feel that they are interested in me."

A junior high girl insisted:

"When they do, I feel as though they are interested in me and care where I go and what happens to me."

A senior-high boy declared:

"When my parents specify a definite time I can be out or place I can go, I do not resent their restrictions. I am glad they are concerned enough to care where I go and what time I get home."

A junior-high girl expressed herself as feeling:

"It's important that they care where I am."

The need for a guide in determining where to go and what to do was indicated by junior highs and senior highs alike. Answering a question on whether parents should set limits, one young person said:

"Yes, because when I know what I can and cannot do I feel secure and know I won't be punished for coming in at a time far later than is in my parents' minds."

Another teen-ager said:

"Yes, so I'll know what time to be in or where I can go without asking."

The author is the mother of two teen-agers, and is active in church and civic affairs.

Should teen-agers decide:

*What to do,
Where to go, and
When to return?*



—Cy La Tour & Son

A senior-high girl reasoned:

"If parents don't set limits and you make the wrong decision as to what you think they want, it is bad for both of you."

The importance of consistency in limitations was indicated by one girl. She complains

"When my parents are always changing their minds, I never know what I am allowed to do, and I don't know what limitations to accept."

Many of the young people felt that their parents should know when to expect them in and where they will be.

"I like for my parents to know where I am just in case anything were to happen—anyway I think it's a good idea for them to know where I am."

"Parents need to know what time to start getting worried."

Limitations often serve as excuses for teen-agers who want to get out of going certain places, or who want to come in earlier than the rest of the crowd. It is easier for them to blame their parents for not letting them do certain things than to admit that they themselves think that it is wrong or undesirable. A minister has told of an occasion when his teenage son received a phone call asking him to go to a place he did not want to go. The son said:

"Sure I want to go, but I have got to ask Dad first."

The boy then covered the phone with his hand and begged his father:

"Please say 'no' real loud when I take my hand off the mouth piece."

This same need for a parental "no" was expressed by a girl who claimed she wanted restrictions from her parents:

"Because in some cases, I use it as an excuse not to go or to come in early."

The briefest explanation for wanting limitations was given by a senior-high boy:

"If they didn't—Wow!"

The teen-agers who claimed that they did not want limitations did so more out of a desire for trust and mutual understand from their parents and the opportunity to learn to make decisions and to discipline themselves than for excessive freedom. This was especially indicated in the first three of the several typical reasons given for not wanting limitations:

"I feel that I am old enough to use my own judgment and discipline myself."

"It is not necessary unless I betray my parents' trust in me."

"I like to be trusted and to use my own judgment."

"Certain restrictions are okay, but they must be reasonable and for specific cases."

"Might conflict with unexpected developments."

"No, I think that I am old enough and mature enough to make a large majority of decisions as to time of return and as to places that I go and who I go with. I think that most parents are *too* strict and that teen-agers should be given more responsi-

bility and a chance to make pertinent decisions.”
 “I believe that by the time persons are sixteen they ought to know how to behave on their *own*. If they don’t by then, they never will.”

“No, you should be to some extent free to prepare to meet the world in a dignified position.”

“I believe if a person is brought up right he needn’t have a set restriction for every night.”

In spite of the fact that they did not want restrictions many teen-agers expressed respect for their parents’ wishes. A senior-high girl did not want limitations but believed:

“If they do set restrictions, I should respect their wishes.”

A boy insisted:

“I think your parents should trust you enough to allow you to set your own time limits and I think you should justify this trust by getting in at a respectable time and by going to respectable places.”

Another boy said:

“No, but you should be considerate enough to tell your parents your plans anyway.”

Mutual trust and understanding with their parents was indicated more by senior highs than by junior highs. A senior student who plans to be a lawyer explained:

“I’ve been brought up with the understanding of mutual trust between my parents and me, and with a sense of knowing right and wrong. It is felt I should know how to plan my own activities.”

A girl of the same age stated:

“No. My parents feel that I am old enough to decide these questions for myself. Of course, there are some *limits*, but I don’t call them restrictions, just suggestions which I strive to follow.”

The opinions of the forty-two young persons who felt that “it all depends” can be summed up in the statement of a senior-high boy:

“A *general limit*. For instance, a time limit should be general or the person might feel that his parents don’t trust him. The person should have some responsibility himself. On the other hand, parents don’t care.”

These teen-age answers can say much to Christian parents. They emphasize that most teen-agers want and need some limitations if they are to feel secure in their parents’ love. Yet they want and need to be trusted and given opportunities to learn to discipline themselves. Above all they desire a mutual understanding with their parents.

The need for consistency in setting limitations is also of major importance. Either extreme excessive leniency or undue strictness is less frustrating and often better for teen-agers than inconsistency in restrictions and discipline. They can understand and accept strictness when extended to them in love more readily than inconsistency which is overpermissive at times. Likewise, being ignored most of the time is worse than too many restrictions all of the time.

What parents do in their own lives is far more important than what they say, or any limitations they may set for their sons and daughters. Parents who live daily by high standards and values prepare their children to know how to make their own decisions when they are confronted with temptations and conflicting values. Teen-agers need to learn to set goals as well as limitations for themselves and to learn how to achieve them. What better teachers could they have than good parental examples?

A perfectionist attitude in parents is not the answer. They can strive to be perfect but also be willing to admit their mistakes and let their sons and daughters profit with them from such experiences. Often parents can guide their children in setting right limitations by telling them that they can now look back and see their own youthful mistakes and ways those mistakes could have been avoided. When young people feel that their parents are understanding of their youthful problems and willing to discuss the reasons behind limitations, they will go to their parents more readily for advice.

Certain limitations are needed, but not to the extent that they serve as “crutches” which thwart responsible decisions on the part of either parents or teen-agers. The essence of our Christian freedom is that all were created in God’s image with the ability to reason and to choose for themselves. Teen-agers should be given guidance, yet allowed opportunities to grow responsibly in their Christian heritage.

As Christian young people learn to make their own decisions and set their own limitations they must do so within the Christian conception of the worth and dignity of the individual which considers not only one’s own self but also the welfare of others. As they respect the rights of and show regard for others, they will discover a new and finer dimension to their own limitations.

There will be no need “to draw the line.”

WORD FUN

by Adelyn
 Jackson Richards

SAETM

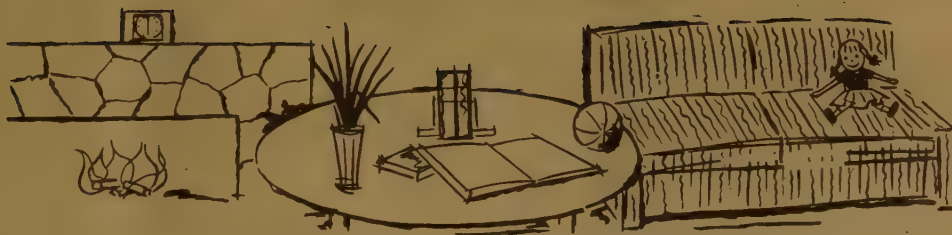
Can you arrange these five letters to spell five five-letter words?

To help you, here are the definitions of the five words to be formed:

1. ----- two or more pairs
2. ----- to make gentle
3. ----- flesh of animals
4. ----- comrades
5. ----- what escape from boiling water

Answers:

1. TEAM
2. MEAT
3. MATE
4. STEAM
5. STEAM



FAMILY WORSHIP

Children are interested in growth. We can understand this as we think of the vegetables and crops that are being harvested this month. Everything harvested comes from small seeds.

Children grow slowly and seemingly small things influence their growth. Most of them are interested in knowing how rapidly they grow. Some parents fasten a long strip of paper on the wall or door frame to mark how tall the child is on each successive birthday. Be sure to read the article, "Growing Up in Christian Directions," page 4.

A child grows in stature, in mind, in personal relationships, and in spirit. God's plan for growth is wonderful. To think of the complexity of it is a bewildering experience. You need confidence that you can guide your child. There is your own experience in life. Ask your minister, teacher, or librarian to help you or to suggest the names of books to read. Remember that children grow in all areas of life at the same time. Be alert to guide them.

As the Twig Is Bent

The actions and attitudes of an adult are the result of the teachings and experiences of childhood and youth. The statement, "If you would know the man look to his childhood," lives today because the truth of it is recognized.

This knowledge of a relationship between behavior and experience emphasizes that childhood is a period that should be filled with worthwhile opportunities for growth. Every stage of development from infancy to adulthood must have the proper nurture in order for the next one to be fulfilled.

A child needs the stability of a Christian home and the opportunity to adventure in learning. Parents can give their children encouragement to try new things. They can send or take them to various places to have better opportunities to gain knowledge of life and growth. Often children do not recognize that they are growing because of their enjoyment and interest in life. All occasions for growth should bring increasing appreciation for God's omnipotence (almighty power), omnipresence (presence everywhere), and his omniscience (knowledge of all things).

Friends, Family, and Vacations

August is a vacation month. Most children enjoy camping or going to a summer cottage for a vacation with their families or friends. These experiences bring opportunities to learn new skills and broaden learnings. The camp may be without electricity or running water. Cooking fires may have to be built. Water may have to be carried and, in addition, numerous other camping chores must be performed. Here, the children will watch and help the parents with responsibilities; for camping is a co-operative venture. Unconsciously, the children will acquire more than the physical skills learned; they will learn ways in which to live together happily.

In addition to family camping, it is worthwhile for every child to have experiences in church camps during the summertime. Here he will meet boys and girls his own age. He will make new friends. He will receive new insights into God's good plan for the world and all his creatures. He will learn invaluable lessons in living with others in Christian ways. He will see in the Bible the record of God's love and care as well as guides for daily living.

Parents should encourage their children to take advantage of learning opportunities in groups sponsored by the church and other character-building agencies.

Theme for August: Growing

The Bible Teaches

For an individual to grow as Jesus grew, there must be growth in the physical, mental, social, and spiritual areas of life. There are Bible verses and stories to emphasize this. 1 Samuel 2:26; Psalm 111:10; Luke 2:40, 52 are used this month. Stories of Bible people such as Moses, Joseph, Samuel, Ezra, David, Isaiah, Elijah, Jesus, and Paul are found in Bible storybooks. They will be good resources to use as your family worships God for growth.

The next four pages contain resource materials for family worship. Those marked (K) are for pre-school children; (P) for grades one through three; and (J) for grades four through six.

Unless otherwise noted, the material on this and the next four pages were prepared by Thomas and Ena Henry.

Theme: Growing Physically



—Luoma Photos

How Do We Grow? (K,P)

"Mama, how do we grow?" called little Martha as she ran into the house.

"Look at that girl," she went on. "Her birthday is two days after mine. How can she be taller than I am? I want to be as big as she is."

"Martha," said Mother, "come see your baby brother. He is little now, but he is growing every day. Let's see how he grows."

As Martha watched, she clapped her hands and laughed aloud. "Look at him kick! See him stretch his arms." Standing by the crib she called gleefully, "Look, he is trying to roll over on his tummy all by himself!"

"That is the baby's exercise," Mother explained. "He is growing. Exercise helps us to grow."

"Now he is crying, Mama. Why does he cry?" Martha asked.

"It is almost time for him to eat. That is the way he tells us he is hungry," said Mother.

"Is he always hungry when he cries?" Martha asked.

"No," answered Mother. "Sometimes he is sick."

"Why does he eat so often?" Martha wanted to know.

"Eating helps him grow. One day he will be as big as you are, Martha," said Mother.

When baby brother was all dressed Mother asked, "Martha, will you feed him?"

"Oh, yes! I like to feed him and hold him, too," Martha answered.

When the bottle was empty, the baby started to cry again.

"Now what is wrong?" Martha asked. "He has eaten."

"He has been awake for a long time. Now he is sleepy. Sleep helps people grow."

"Mother, you said, 'Exercise helps us grow.' 'Food helps us grow.' 'Sleep helps us grow.'"

"That is true," said Mother. "They are all part of God's plan for growing."

A Bible Verse

The boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord.—1 Samuel 2:26.

A Prayer

Thank You, God, for health and strength
To work and play each day;
Thank You for the food we eat
When hunger comes our way.

Make us ever glad to share
All gifts which come from You,
So people everywhere may eat
When they are hungry, too.
Amen.

—Mabel Niedermeyer McCaw

Thanks

My thanks, dear Lord, to you I give
For everything that helps me live;
For health and food and parents dear,
For homes of comfort, love, and cheer;

For beauty of each bright new day;
For all the friends with whom I play;
For heaven's stars of twinkling light
And for your care of me each night.

—Emily May Young¹

Junior Class Picnic (J)

"The new Junior Class will have a picnic at the home of Mrs. Brown on Wednesday from two to four o'clock. All boys and girls in the community, nine to eleven years old, are invited," announced the minister one Sunday.

A new church had been started only a few months ago in the developing subdivision at the outer edge of the city. This class had been started because so many boys and girls were in the families who had moved into the homes of the new development.

The boys and girls came to the picnic. It was the first time for such a gathering since they had moved to this community. They had a fine time playing games, drinking cold drinks, eating hot dogs and all the other good things.

When the picnic was over the tallest boy said to Mrs. Brown, "This was a good picnic. We had lots of fun getting better acquainted, playing games, and eating the good food."

"We need food, fun, play, and learning, to grow," said Mrs. Brown with a smile. "Come to church school next Sunday and learn some other things."

"Thanks, I will," Mark answered. And he did.

¹Reprinted from *Hearthstone*, copyrighted, November, 1952.

Theme: Growing Mentally

A Bible Verse

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.

—Psalm 111:10.

School Day Prayer

This morning, God, I kneel to pray:
Please bless my teacher every day,
And bless us every one that we
May be as you would have us be.

I thank you, God, for school which brings
To boys and girls such wondrous things;
For books, for schoolmates, playground, too,
Dear God, in heaven, I thank you.

—Florence Pedigo Jansson

How Do You Fly This Plane? (J)

Stephen, Mark, John, Peter, and Paul were five boys in the junior class of the vacation church school. They admired their teacher, Mr. Andrews. Thus the studying, singing, and working went swiftly in the record book the junior class was making.

What the boys liked most of all was that their teacher knew how to fly model airplanes. He had taken many of their model planes and repaired them.

One afternoon as a special expedition, Mr. Andrews and the boys went to the athletic field to fly their model planes. "Perhaps we can learn from one another," said Mr. Andrews.

Steve's motor would not run. Mr. Andrews took it apart while all the boys watched. He soon found the difficulty and repaired it.

Steve asked, "How did you know how to fix it?"

"I learned by watching another man, just as you are watching me," answered the teacher.

Mark was trying to adjust the wings of his plane which had fallen off in flight. Finally, he came to his teacher and asked, "Can you help me?"

Mr. Andrews examined it. He held it up so Mark could see how to correct the trouble. "How did you learn so much about model airplanes?" asked Mark.

"I learned by reading books. Would you like to borrow one of mine?" questioned Mr. Andrews.

"I sure would," answered Mark.

"Perhaps some of the other boys may want to read it, too," said Mr. Andrews.

"Sure! We would like to read books about planes," several boys said.

"Tomorrow afternoon if any of you boys want to build an airplane, bring the materials. We will work together and see if we can construct one that will fly," announced Mr. Andrews as the boys parted.

"We will," they called.

As they walked home Mark said thoughtfully, "I didn't know there were so many ways to learn: by watching, by reading, and by working together."

"Yes," said Paul, "God made us that way."

Why Learn Hard Things? (K,P)

Miriam was in second grade at school. She was delighted with stories her teacher read. She enjoyed drawing, looking at pictures, and reading from her own books. But number problems and spelling were hard for her. So she was beginning to lose some of her interest in school.

One day as she sat looking at one of her books she said to her mother, "Why do I have to learn to spell and do number problems?"

"Why do you ask that question?" her mother inquired.

"Oh," Miriam replied, "I would rather draw and look at pictures. I like it when our teacher reads stories to us. Once she read us a real good story about a girl who grew up to be a grand lady. When she was a little girl she enjoyed learning all of her lessons. That helped her to become a noble lady."

Mother knew it was time for Miriam to understand why she needed to learn and to be thankful for all her lessons. "You need to know how to use numbers and to spell so you will be a grand lady," she said. "Everything we learn one year helps us to learn harder things the next year. God wants us always to use our minds."

"But why will I need number problems and spelling?" asked Miriam.

"When you are a mother you will want to buy groceries. If you learn to do numbers, then you will know you are paying the right amount. When you write a letter, you will need to know how to spell."

"I see!" Miriam called as she ran out to play.

—Eva Luoma Photos





—George A. Hammond

A Picture-Story (K,P)

Do you like to play in a sand box? The children you see in the picture seem to be having a fine time. Just look at all the play-things they have! Jack is enjoying putting the sand into a sifter and watching it run through. What do you think Henry is doing? Is he building a road with the tractor? Ann thinks it great fun to dig into the sand with a dipper.

Do you know why these children are able to play together so happily? One reason is because no one is trying to take the toys of the other. That is the way children must play if they have happy times with others. Suppose Henry wants to play with Ann's dipper. Will she be happy if he takes it? If he asks for it nicely, I think she will agree for him to play with it. Perhaps she would like to play with the tractor while he plays with the dipper.

A good rule is to treat our friends as we want them to treat us. This is a rule that Jesus gave us. We call it the "Golden Rule."

Choosing Friends (J)

"Mother," cried Sue, as she fairly bounced into the house, "one of the girls in my class wants me to go home with her on Friday after school. Oh, I do want to go, Mother! May I?"

"Why, I think so," replied her mother. "What is her name? Perhaps I have met her mother."

"She is Peggy White. I like her very much. Please, may I go, Mother?"

"Yes, you may, and you may ask her to come home with you some afternoon. I am glad you are making friends so quickly in your new school."

The next day Sue came in slowly, the bounce gone from her step.

"Is anything wrong, Sue?" asked her mother.

"Not exactly, Mother," said Sue. "I wish I hadn't promised to go home with Peggy. Another girl, Dot Miller, who is the most popular girl in our class, asked me to go to the show Friday afternoon with her and some other girls."

"You say this girl is popular,

A Bible Verse

And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.
—Luke 2:40.

Partners

To be God's helpers we must start
Right where we are to do our part.
Even little girls and boys
Can help by picking up their toys.
—Doris Waser¹

A Morning Prayer

Thank You, God, for sleep and rest
You gave to me last night;
Be near me now throughout this day
And lead me to do right.
Show me the help that I can be
To my friends and family.

Thank You, God, for all the things
I will enjoy today;
Help me to share most willingly
With friends who come to play;
And when it's time for evening rest
May I know I've worked my best.
Amen.

—Mabel Niedermeyer McCaw

Sue," said her mother. "What do you mean by popular?"

"Well, everybody likes her, and she is always with a crowd."

"But do you like her better than Peggy?" asked her mother.

"No," said Sue slowly. "I think I like Peggy best. She was so nice to me when I didn't know anyone, and she is fun to be with, too."

"Sue," said her mother, "you must learn to choose your own friends."

"I think I see what you mean, Mother," said Sue. "I had better choose friends for some other reason than because they are popular. If Dot really likes me, she will ask me to go somewhere with her again."

¹Reprinted from *Hearthstone*, copyrighted July, 1953.

Theme: Growing Spiritually

Our Father (K,P)

As soon as Father said "Amen," Bobby asked, "Daddy, why is it that you call God 'Our Father' when you pray?"

"Well, Bobby, we call God our Father because we are his children. He created man in the beginning. He wanted man to have a home, so he made the world, the flowers, the trees, the animals for man's well-being; but human beings are the only ones that he called his children. God has given us the whole world to use as we wish. He wants us to learn to use it in ways to make ourselves and other people happy.

"Plants and animals cannot choose what they do. They just follow the plans of God without knowing they do. But we are the children of God and are able to think and learn.

"God has other names that describe him as Creator and Almighty, but people came to know him best as a kind, loving Father. Jesus called God his Father. When his followers asked him to teach them to pray, he began his prayer, 'Our Father.'

"When we think of God as our Father, we want to remember that he is the Father of all the people in the world, and everywhere in the world. Some are old, some are young; some are fair, some are dark; some are rich, some are poor. God loves and cares for his children.

"He wants us to love him as our Father and try to live according to his plan."

"I'm glad we call God 'Our Father,'" said Bobby. "It makes him seem near to us."



—A. Devaney, Inc., N. Y.

A Bible Verse

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.—Luke 2:52.

Morning Prayer

Father, help me all this day
To be kind and thoughtful
In every way,
In all I think, and do, and say.

—Clara Lundie Crawford¹

A Child Talks to God

Dear God, I try to do my best
Each day at work and play,
I follow what the Bible tells,
And what my parents say.

Sometimes I find it very hard,
Sometimes the day seems long,
Then I say a little prayer:
Dear God, make me strong.

—Kathleen Elsmore Clarken

¹Reprinted from *Hearthstone*, copyrighted January, 1954.

Symbols of Faith(J)

Betty and Fred walked ahead of Mother and Daddy as they came out of the church.

"Didn't the church look beautiful today," exclaimed Mother, "with all the lovely flowers and the new brass candlesticks and cross!"

"Yes," agreed Betty. "Mother, what did Mr. Burns mean when he talked about the cross and candlesticks being among the symbols of our faith?"

"He meant that they have a special meaning for Christians. When you look at the cross, of what does it make you think?"

"Jesus died on the cross," volunteered Fred.

"Yes, so we think of Jesus and his love for us when we see a cross. What about the lighted candles?"

"I don't know," answered Betty.

Fred shook his head. "I don't know either."

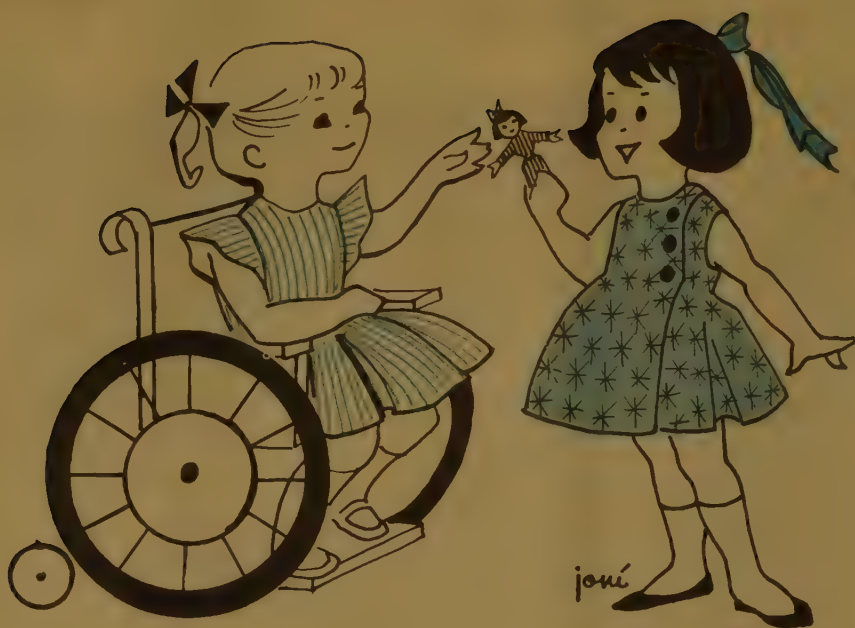
"Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world,'" said Daddy, "so we think of the lighted candle as representing Jesus."

"Yes, but there are two candles," said Fred. "What does the other one mean?"

"Jesus also said, 'You are the light of the world,'" Daddy explained.

"Did he mean us?" asked Betty. "Is that what you are saying?"

"Yes," answered Daddy. "He said that we are to let our light shine before other people so they will see the good we do and glorify our Father who is in heaven."



janet's city friend

Illustrated by Joan Fredman
by Enola Chamberlin

When Janet moved from the country into the city she had to give up her horse. There wasn't any place to keep him and there wasn't any place to ride him either. So Janet sat on the front steps of her new home and gazed mournfully out at the sidewalks, the streets, the houses which were so close together. And she thought about her horse that she had had to leave behind. She could hear children calling and playing all around but she didn't want to play. All she wanted was her horse.

Then as she looked all around her she saw a girl on the front porch of the house across the street. She sat behind the porch railing but she was gazing out at the houses and sidewalks. Only her face was bright and she seemed to be filled with cheer.

"I wonder why she isn't playing with the other children," Janet said to herself. "She can't want a horse, too."

Just then the little girl moved and Janet saw why she wasn't out playing with the other children. She was in a wheel chair. She got from one place to another by rolling the wheels with her hands. Janet jumped up.

"Oh, no," she said right out loud. It hurt her to see a girl who couldn't walk.

In just no time at all she was down her walk, across the quiet street and up to the other girl's porch steps.

"Hello," she said. "I'm Janet. I just moved into the house across the street."

"I'm Claire," the other girl said. "I saw you over there. Why aren't you out playing with the other children?"

Janet started to tell her about wanting her horse and then stopped. Somehow it seemed funny to be wanting a horse in the city. She laughed a little.

"I want something and I can't have it and I didn't want anything else. I didn't want to play. I didn't want to do anything."

Claire laughed too. "Well, I want something and

I can't have it, not now anyhow, but I want other things too."

"What other things do you want?" Janet asked.

"Right now I want you to play with me," Claire said.

"Oh," Janet said. "How can we play?"

"You mean how can we play since I'm in a wheel chair?" Claire asked.

Janet nodded.

"I have dolls and games in my room. You could bring them out here and we could play and play. That is if you want to."

"Oh, I want to," Janet said. "I want to very much."

So she knocked at the door. Claire's mother showed her where the playthings were. Janet brought them out. She and Claire had a wonderful time. They dressed the dolls in fancy clothes. They played dominoes and other games. Then Claire's mother brought out heart-shaped sandwiches. She brought little pink-frosted cakes and hot chocolate. The girls ate and laughed and ate and laughed some more.

Then Claire had to go in and take her nap. She had to have her rest to help her to get well and strong so she would be able to be out of the wheel chair and run around with the other children. So Janet took the toys and games back and put them carefully away where she had found them. Then she went across the street and sat down on her own front porch again. But now she did not gaze mournfully out at the houses and wish only that she had her horse.

"A horse is all right in the country," she said to herself. "He is a wonderful friend there. But I guess a little girl of about my own age is the best kind of a friend in the city."

Her face was bright and her eyes had a happy gleam. Tomorrow she would go play with Claire again.

Can Families Give Both Privacy and a Sense of Unity?

by Marge Frank

**An article dealing with deep-seated
needs of persons and families**

LAURA IS A TENSE CHILD, who gives of her whole self to her schoolwork. Although she is only ten years old, she comes home from school ready to be left alone for a little while. She craves nothing as much as a few moments of uninterrupted day-

dreaming, or a time to drift away with her story book.

Like Laura, each person, in different degrees, from childhood, feels a need for privacy and the opportunity to be alone. True, we crave companionship, and the "togetherness" which has been almost over-emphasized recently. However, for development of ourselves as individuals, and for refreshment of tired, overstrained minds and emotions, we must—each of us—have peace and privacy.

This is far from easy to achieve in our modern, small house, which is ever busy, busy, busy. Noise and tempest and confusion too often seem to rule our homes until we all feel like voicing aloud, "Leave me alone—please, leave me alone!" as my little daughter has done occasionally.

We are amused sometimes at the big rambling homes that Americans in average circumstances built for themselves a hundred years ago. They were hard to keep clean, hard to heat, and certainly expensive to maintain. But oh, the roominess in those old places! There, even when one was the member of a large family, he could find a corner to be alone—to think, meditate, or just rest.

Try to find such a corner in today's average, beautiful, efficient, modern, ranch type house (not a corner wasted), a place for everything, and everything in its place—but no place for that quiet, private moment which is due to each one of us.

It is difficult, indeed, to be alone in today's American family. Yet possibly at no time in history have individuals more needed a moment of privacy, to refresh their souls from the tense, noisy world in which we live.

To give family members, those who desire it, an opportunity to be alone, takes real planning these days in most American families which are usually a little larger than a few years ago, but which usually

—Cy La Tour & Sons



One thing that most families can do is to provide a nook or place for each member to call his or her own, where he or she can develop talents and interests that are enjoyable and relaxing.



Some projects involving all the family are best worked on by the family as a unit. For example, planning the summer vacation.

live in homes a little smaller.

Yes, it is important to most people to be able to be alone, at times, in their homes.

Yet it is also important to most people to feel that each person is a real, important, irreplaceable member of his family group—to share this “togetherness,” of which everyone is talking, with other family members.

How often we see that it is possible to be the member of a large family and still be lonely. Merely living together under the same roof certainly does not insure any meeting of minds or hearts of those involved.

As has been said, it does take a lot of living (and understanding, too) by family members, to make a house a home. It is difficult and sometimes costly (in terms of everyone having to give up some of their selfish desires) to create a feeling of love, understanding, and oneness in a family group. Yet, it is worth the effort!

Think of the opposite choices to that of creating a home in which “togetherness” is emphasized: lonely people, selfish people, unhappy people. Out of such raw material develops the unhappy home which helps many a divorce lawyer earn a handsome

living in the courts—divorce courts which damage a human soul in ways not to be imagined by those who are unacquainted personally with the grief that a broken home and marriage mean to the people involved.

Families that fail to create a feeling of oneness among their members pay dearly for their failure.

Here, then, are two needs each modern family is called upon to supply: (1) the opportunity to be alone, to have privacy in the family group; and (2) the necessity to create an atmosphere of “togetherness”—a feeling of belonging in each family member.

How can families accomplish these two large, important objectives? Certainly it isn’t easy—but what really worthwhile thing is?

The problem of making possible privacy and opportunities for family members to be by themselves is perhaps most difficult when families are large, but even the two-member family has an obligation not to ignore the rights of the other member to be alone.

Many little things are involved: the certainty that no one else will ever open your mail (“Mother, have you ever been guilty?”); the habit of always knocking before opening a closed door inside the house (“Father, do you always remember?”); giving

giving each family member a place for their things which is their very own; allowing those family members (excluding tiny children, of course) who wish opportunities to be alone in some room in the house to do so without cross-examination concerning their activities; permitting others the privacy of their own reflections, without annoying ("penny for your thoughts") questions, which are so carelessly and constantly tossed at family members in many homes. Our thoughts, even those of the very young, are rightfully our own, and no one has any right to them, unless we choose to share them!)

Christianity has always emphasized the rights of the individual, while at the same time realizing that any person's rights end where those of another begin. As in other actions, the Christian will surely seek to give to others that privacy he feels that he, himself, deserves—even though the others be young and unable to defend their rights. In this way the young can in turn be taught to respect the privacy of their elders.

Concerning our other problem, there is no more important duty of parents than to make possible a feeling of "togetherness" in their family. As the children grow older, they share this task with their parents. Unless all family members care enough about their families to work at creating a loving group who really care for each other, the task will be difficult, if not impossible. One or two family members can start working on building unity, but eventually it will take everyone working together to succeed.

Doing things together is an easy way to start.

The Jones family permitted their older children to help plan their summer vacation this year. Many happy times were spent together talking it over during the spring, and new understandings developed between parents and children as they did so.

Mealtimes are very special in the Ames home. Daddy is fortunate enough to be able to come home for lunch, and so it is possible for this family to be together at meal times, three times each day. What opportunities to build an understanding! (Families should eat together, unless this is really impossible. Many parents feel that only under very unusual circumstances should family members be excused to eat elsewhere.)

Holiday and birthday celebrations are gala affairs at the Springs. Family traditions are being developed, and everyone looks forward eagerly to the next special day. (For example: Anyone who has a birthday is awakened on his special day with the family grouped about his bed singing "Happy Birthday," lustily, if somewhat tunelessly. Christmas Eve means a special family religious program at home, with each family member taking part. A ceremonial hanging of socks for Santa to fill follows.)

Talking things over together is another important aspect of building family solidarity. Parents must never be too busy to discuss the problems of their children, though they may sometimes seem insignificant to the adults. The child who is rebuffed once

may not return again. In this way the wall between parent and small child is begun, which by adolescent years may have grown so high as to be insurmountable. Better to prevent its formation at the start!

Need we remind parents to talk things over? We might well mention here that parents need times when the two of them can be alone, together. This is important. When children are small, this time can be had after the young are put to bed. As they grow older, however, sometimes it is necessary to get a baby sitter to accomplish this end.

Many things are a part of creating family togetherness.

Can you count on members of your family to help each other—perhaps help Dad paint the house, help Mom in her PTA project, help Junior find a book he needs for school, or help Sis to have the front room free Saturday night for a special party?

Does each member of your family appreciate the good points of the others, and try to overlook their weaknesses (realizing all of us are full of imperfections, but we expect others to love us anyway)?

Do the parents in your family try to be fair in disciplining their children—not punishing children merely for annoying them?

How about religion in your family? Is it important? It is no accident that sincere Christian, churchgoing families are usually happy, united groups.

There is indeed a time when each of us wants and needs to be alone. We also have a great need to feel loved and appreciated and necessary to our families. May God help every family as they try, with his help, to accomplish these ends.

(See Meeting Plans on pages 26, 27)

WILBUR



"Hold on a minute. There's somebody on the line."



—Photos from the Authors



Family Hobby

by

Jim and Edith Dean

A hobby for every member of the family—this Grandmother has more than 100,000 post cards.

"STATE CAPITOLS ARE STILL MY FAVORITE," Larry said, looking down at the assortment of post cards on the table in front of him.

This might well be expected. For Larry Cheek, who is now a sophomore in high school, learned the names of the State Capitols by collecting post card pictures of them when he was a Cub Scout. His "Collection Achievement" soon developed into a family hobby with Mom interested in waterfalls, and Dad, in colored cardboard cats.

Although the hobby sort of "sneaked" into this home, it was far too interesting and versatile to be evicted.

The family had been collectors for some time before they learned that their hobby had a scientific name: deltiology. A complete history of the name appeared in the daily paper, crediting its coinage to Rendall Rhodes, erstwhile

professor of language at Ohio State University. It was derived from the Greek, "deltion," an illustrating tablet, and our own Greek-derived suffix, "-logy," a doctrine, theory, or science.

When Larry's parents heard of a local post card club, the entire family began attending the monthly meetings. Here, they took an active part in all of the club's activities, entered display contests, and exchanged friendships along with post cards. Larry even came across a few State Capitols that had eluded him earlier.

Here, too, they learned the language peculiar to their hobby. For example, the term "L.L." refers to a card which carries its greeting in Large Letters. An "oilette," as might be expected, is a card with an oil finish. Of course, three "maximum" cards joined the family's collection. Specifications of a "maximum" card are:

1. The view on the stamp must be the same as the view of the card.
2. The stamp is placed on the view side of the card.
3. The postmark identifies the view as to name and location.

Advantages of the hobby are practically unlimited. First, and perhaps most important, expenses can be adapted to one's budget. A common interest tends to eclipse differences of opinion and brings the shyest individual "out of his shell." Mental activity, so essential for the retired person, is provided, as well as relaxation equally essential for the professional man or woman.

If you can afford to travel, post cards make splendid souvenirs that are available in most places, that are compact and easy to carry and that will later provide mean-



The family spends an evening, traveling around the world via post cards.

or reliving the trip in technicolor. If, on the other hand, you are denied the pleasure of actual travel, vicarious trips are available—trips in a post card vehicle which travels equally as well by land, sea, or air.” It is even equipped with a unique reverse gear which goes back into the past.

Nor is it difficult to make friends around the world through post card correspondence. In this way, inhabitants of remote lands become neighbors as knowledge of their way of life increases. Larry’s parents have been introduced to many famous—and a few infamous—people by their collection.

Friends of all ages find the Cheek post card collection fascinating. They return time after time, and on occasion bring others for the sole purpose of looking at certain cards or checking for new additions.

For collectors who wish to spe-

cialize, an abundance of topics are available. View cards, depicting historical, literary, or scientific events, may well arouse an interest in school children otherwise immune to the subjects. For the young man or woman, deltiology offers an extremely pleasant way of building an advance fund of knowledge of his chosen profession as well as the opportunity of meeting deltiologists already established in the profession.

There are almost as many reasons for starting a collection as there are collectors. Once started, the hobby usually moves under its own power. Larry’s collection, for instance, began as an “Achievement” in the Cub Scouts. He added State Capitols because he wanted to learn their names; religious cards, because he loves God; and Indian cards, because of his Cherokee heritage.

One man uses his cards as a “blueprint” for building authentic

sets for the television station where he works; another, frankly admitting that the “hobby cure” is among the recognized methods of treatment of nervous diseases, collects as an occupational therapy; still another uses his hobby as an educational splint. Nor can we overlook the man who describes himself as being like the man who climbs the mountain because it’s there. “Only I collect cards because *they* are available.”

The simplest, and probably the most popular reason was given by the lady who said, “I collect post cards because they’re so pretty.”

The history of deltiology is obscure. Post cards probably made their debut in the United States during the Columbian Exposition of 1893. One authority claims that the post card was not invented but that it simply evolved from the valentine, the personal

(Continued on page 30)



1. Humor— Ingredient for Family Happiness

by John Anderson Barbour

Purpose of Meeting

Mary Martin, star of the Broadway musical *Sound of Music*, and known to young and old alike for her portrayal of Peter Pan, has been quoted as saying:

"What makes for happiness? It isn't money. It isn't glamor. It isn't success—although all of those things are nice. Happiness lies within the walls of a real household, and all else is relative."

The purpose of this lesson is to take a long look at the value of humor as an ingredient for happiness in a family household.

Preparation for Meeting

It should not be difficult to get members of the group to comply with this request in preparation for this meeting. Ask each couple to bring clippings of cartoons and jokes on the funny side of family life. Back issues of magazines such as *Saturday Evening Post*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, and *Hearthstone* will prove to be fruitful sources.

Ask the group to familiarize themselves with the article *Being a Family Is Fun* on page 1 as background material for this and the following session. Bring paper and pencils to the class and see that there is a chalkboard and chalk or newsprint and a crayon and a bulletin board available in your meeting room. Appoint a couple to prepare a closing devotional.

Conducting the Meeting

Spend three or four minutes at the beginning of the session sharing

the cartoons and jokes which have been brought. Just in case very few have brought any, come with a selection yourself and then these can be handed around if needed.

Put the clippings on the board or wall. Ask the group to study them and to pick out any that fall into the category of being jokes at the expense of some member of the family. Do some of them show Mom or Dad to be some kind of a fool?

Point out that humor or practical joking in the family should always be in good taste. Humor should not emphasize the fault, or failure, or weakness of some individual. Humor should never be, and particularly in the Christian family, a vicious cutting knife.

Next, pass out paper and pencils. Ask each person to think of some family situation which could be helped by a touch of humor. It might be an actual situation in the experience of the individual or someone known to him or it might be a hypothetical situation.

Suggest that it might be a situation where tension has been relieved by a humorous happening or remark. It might be an example of how family ties can be strengthened by humor. It might be an example of how family self-opinions are kept in proper perspective. No doubt other values of humor will come to mind as the group spends about ten minutes or so working on this.

Follow this with a sharing session as members of the group read aloud what they have written.

Pertinent ideas may be recorded on the chalkboard.

Point out that parents owe to their families to roof their homes with good humor. Children brought up in happy homes are much more likely to be well adjusted in society outside the home. Tomorrow's Moms and Dads brought up as sons and daughters in today's households will be shaped by that which surrounds them now. We owe them the sound of happy laughter today.

Spend a few moments before the closing devotional in silent self-appraisal. Ask each to consider how closely-knit his household is. Truly, is it a happy home?

Close the meeting with a devotional prepared by the couple given this assignment. For the scripture reading, use Proverbs 15:13a, 15; 17:22a. An appropriate hymn to sing would be "O Happy Home, Where Thou Art Loved the Dearest." Have a moment of silent prayer concluding with the Lord's Prayer in unison.

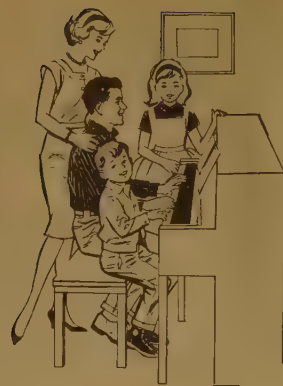
Questions for Discussion

1. How do homes of a few generations ago compare with homes today with regard to humor in the home? Were they more Christian because they were more stern?

2. If humor is encouraged in the home, how can we keep our people from becoming too flippant or too free and easy with the parents? Or is this a danger?

3. What scriptural warrant can we find for underscoring the need for fun in the home?

2. The Family Plays the Game



Purpose of Meeting

Fun is important. It greases the gears of family living and reveals individuals to each other at their best. The purpose of this meeting is to think through ways in which families can have fun together.

Preparation for Meeting

The week before the meeting, assign someone the responsibility of preparing and conducting a brief devotional service with which to open the meeting. Also ask each couple to come to the class prepared to share experiences they have had of "playing together" as a family. You might also ask some members of the church youth group to attend so that they may share in the discussion of ways in which a family can recreate together.

Conducting the Meeting

Begin the session with the devotional. It is difficult to find a scripture which relates itself to the theme of this meeting. A passage such as Psalm 24:3-10 with its emphasis on the lordship of the Son of God as the way to inner purity is suitable for almost any occasion. The hymn "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart," No. 272¹ may be used. This could be followed by a prayer for God's direction in considering the subject of family recreation.

Pass out paper and pencils to everyone present. Present the question: *How much time do you spend together as a family in some form or other of recreation?* State that you want the answers

unsigned and that you want one of three words in the answer. The three words are: *little, some, considerable*. Allow a few moments for the answers to be put down. Ask someone to gather the slips of paper together and to report the results. Using the results of the questionnaire as a starter, point out that within the past few years emphasis on togetherness has stimulated renewed interest in the sharing of fun and games in the family. Point out that many parents, however, seem at a loss to know how to have fun with their children.

At this point, call for those who have come prepared to do so to share experiences that they have had in recreation with their families. Write on the chalkboard the categories in which the experiences fall. Your list should look something like this:

1. Enjoying family singsongs.
2. Playing parlor games. Action games as well as games such as Scrabble or Monopoly.
3. Enjoying outdoor games such as croquet.
4. Going on hikes or cycling.
5. Going driving as a family on short and long trips.
6. Picnicking.
7. Enjoying hobbies together.
8. Handicraft.
9. Swimming.

The list no doubt will grow longer and longer as you talk over ways of enjoying leisure moments with the whole family. Seek ideas from the young people present. Find out what part they would like to have in planning the activities of the family.

Draw up some rules such as:

1. Plan fun in which all mem-

bers of the family can participate.

2. Allow each member of the family to take his turn in planning the recreation.

3. Make a rule that when a younger member of the family suggests a game that older ones might think childish, there will be no disparagement of the suggestion. All are to receive the same treatment.

In a sort of brainstorming session, no doubt, other rules will come thick and fast. Pick out the best and suggest that these may be mimeographed and form the basis of a family recreation program along with the list of recreation suggestions.

Conclude by pointing out that young people enjoy and broaden their understanding of adults and parents and that parents get to know their children, when they explore together the pathways of palship.

Questions for Discussion

1. How can radio and television be used to bring a family together? Suggest some programs which are good for family viewing and listening.

2. What are some games that the Nazareth family might have played together? (The answer to this will necessitate some research in a biblical encyclopedia.)

3. What can my church do to encourage family recreation?

Resource Material

Parents' Magazine

Recreation Magazine.

Check with local Y.M.C.A. for suggestions

The Family Fun Book, Association Press, New York \$2.95.

¹From *Christian Worship—A Hymnal*. Available from the joint publishers of this magazine.

I. There Must Be Opportunity in the Family To Be Alone

by Marge Frank



Two meeting plans for parents' classes and discussion groups

Purpose

Nearly everyone feels a need for certain types of privacy, and some opportunity to be alone. This desire for "aloneness" will vary greatly from individual to individual, but it is found at an early age among many children, and it is certainly found in most adults and older folk.

Look at the lives of most great people going back to the Old Testament times of Moses and the prophets, then John and Jesus in the New Testament and finally many outstanding individuals in our own day; these people have taken time to be alone—with themselves and with God. In so doing, they developed their true potential.

In the agrarian societies of earlier years, a person could go out into the fields to be alone. City-dwellers of today find opportunities for being alone scarce indeed. Where can a person go to be alone, even in his home, without apologizing? Is this as it should be?

For the personality of children to develop properly, and for refreshment from our complex modern life, children and adults need opportunities to be alone.

This, then, is the problem: Is it possible to allow family members, if they desire it, opportunities to be alone in our modern small homes and complicated family schedules?

As with many human problems, there will be no easy answer. Though perhaps in considering this question together, the group will help each other see possibilities of giving family members privacy, and so help smooth this difficulty frequently found in modern family living.

Preparation for the Meeting

There may be some among your group who have never given any thought to the topic which is to be considered. If your group is fortunate enough to have available (as member, or friend, or acquaintance, who might be called upon) someone sufficiently trained in psychology or psychiatry to discuss this problem of the need for individuals to be alone, do plan to use this person. Let him read the *Hearthstone* article "Can Families Give Both Privacy and a Sense of Unity?" page 19 and ask him to discuss with the group the needs for, and benefits to each family member in finding some "aloneness" in his

family situation.

You may not be fortunate enough to have available such a person. Perhaps, then, you might review, yourself, the portions of the *Hearthstone* article which deal with the privacy each family member needs and deserves. (If you do not wish to do this yourself, ask some member of your group to do so, being sure to give him sufficient time to prepare the report adequately.)

If someone is to give an opening prayer (see section on "Conducting the Meeting") be sure this person, also, prepares for this beforehand.

Conducting the Meeting

Perhaps you might like to choose someone who seems particularly close to God to give the opening prayer for this meeting. Such a person might understand the need each has for "aloneness," for it is only by being "alone" with God in prayer and meditation that persons achieve nearness to him. Ask the person giving the prayer to express this need in his prayer.

Next you might read, aloud, the "Purpose" of this meeting as outlined in this study guide.

If you are fortunate enough to have a psychiatrist, psychologist, doctor, or teacher as speaker or resource person, allot him a good portion of your meeting time, permitting him to lead the group in discussing the topic when he has finished talking if he is willing to do so.

Should you, or one of the group, be planning to review the *Hearthstone* article's sections concerning family member's needs and opportunities for aloneness, this review, in the absence of a speaker, can be an important part of your meeting. It would be best for the reviewer to be familiar enough with the material, so that it could be presented informally. If necessary, the portions which concern this meeting may be read aloud. Please make sure, if they are to be read, that they are *well prepared and well read*.

Following either of the two meeting suggestions your group will probably wish to discuss the why and how of family privacy and aloneness. The discussion questions which follow can be the basis for your discussion. Invite the group to contribute other pertinent questions if they can.

(Continued on page 28)

II. There Must Be Growth in the Family Toward Togetherness

based on the article "Can Families Give Both Privacy and a Sense of Unity?" page 19.



Purpose

The usual man, woman, and child wants to feel loved and needed by other human beings more than he desires anything else, beyond such basic needs as food, shelter, and clothing.

The family group is the most natural place for this need to be met, and so over and over again a person hears emphasized, "Families must seek togetherness." Most of us would hardly argue about the correctness of the idea, but often wonder just how much "togetherness" is possible in our confused modern world with its many demands on each family member's time and energies.

Yet, if families cannot give to their members a feeling of "belonging" sufficient to satisfy the basic desire for it, its members may either seek affection and satisfaction for their desire to be needed elsewhere (a tragic thing—particularly if it is one of the parents), or they will at least feel lonely and incomplete.

A family which makes its members feel loved and needed, not only is a strong, happy family, but its members are the kind of persons who can face any difficulty the world may throw their way. They are strengthened by the sure knowledge that at home they are necessary and desired, so they can laugh in the face of most disasters which outside circumstances present.

Attempt in this meeting to seek ways of helping families to feel united—to have the "togetherness" feeling of which everyone is talking.

Preparation for the Meeting

This meeting may sound too "easy" because the topic of family togetherness is so widely discussed, but if the leader fails to prepare adequately for the meeting ahead of time, it will be a dismal failure. Do plan ahead for this meeting, as much as you would for one with a seemingly harder topic.

Are there those in your group, or of your acquaintance, who have been particularly successful in making their family a close-knit, happy group? Perhaps you will wish to ask these couples, or one of the parents, to discuss with the group how they accomplished this. If you plan to ask one or more individuals to do this, warn them well ahead of the meeting date. Let their comments be planned, and

allow each a five- to ten-minute period to talk. Permit the group to ask questions and discuss the talks when the speakers have finished.

If you wish to be less formal, warn each of the persons who will be attending this meeting that they will be expected to contribute concrete examples from their own experience, or that of others, concerning family togetherness.

Make sure as many of your group as possible read the *Hearthstone* article "Can Families Give Both Privacy and a Sense of Unity?" page 19, from which this study is taken. Suggest that all those who possibly can, read other material from recent books and magazines on achieving family closeness.

If you wish to have a secretary take notes (see section "Conducting the Meeting"), enlist this person ahead of time.

Conducting the Meeting

You may wish to open your meeting with a prayer for family closeness. Plan this ahead of time, or ask someone else to do so.

The topic of creating a closer feeling in our families is one which particularly lends itself to hearing how others have done it. Therefore your meeting may take one of three forms. You may wish to combine, or use all three suggestions.

1) Ask several individuals or couples who have been particularly capable in creating "togetherness" in their families to tell how they achieved (or are achieving) this difficult and important accomplishment. They should know well in advance of the meeting that they are to do this (see "Preparation for the Meeting").

2) Have everyone at the meeting give ideas concerning how togetherness is to be achieved in family living. Each should speak from his own experience, or from that of others, in so far as it is possible to do so.

3) Use the discussion questions which follow. Perhaps after reading the *Hearthstone* article carefully, you will be able to add other questions which may be particularly significant for your group.

A good way to end your meeting would be to have your previously appointed secretary read from his notes the good, concrete suggestions which the group

(Continued on page 28)

◆ Being a Family Is Fun

(Continued from page 3)

The Christian home should be a family-centered home. We boast statistically that 62 per cent of our nation's people are church-related. Many of those professedly Christian homes must be overlooking their responsibility to "play together" or we would not have such a large percentage of our young people replying to a questionnaire that they do not spend time together as a family.

As one engaged in Christian work, I was suddenly brought face to face with the fact that my family was growing up and "I was so busy in the work of the Lord" that they were becoming strangers. In 1 Kings 20:40 the prophet tells about a soldier being asked to guard a very important prisoner; but while the soldier was busy at other things (in all probability perfectly legitimate affairs for a soldier), the prisoner escaped. The soldier had to confess, "As your servant was busy here and there, he was gone."

Let us not become so involved—in making a living, in the affairs of the community (even though Christian participation in these, certainly is important), in the church—that, while we are busy here and there our children are gone.

Being a family is fun. It is too late to prove it after the family is gone.

(See Meeting Plans on pages 24, 25)

◆ I. There Must Be Opportunity in the Family To Be Alone

(Continued from page 26)

Discussion-Questions

1. How can "aloneness" and privacy be preserved in a family whose children's ages are very different? (Example: toddler, 5, 10, and 15 years old.) Consider the mother and father's rights and needs as well as those of the children.

2. What is each of the above family member's duties in developing possibilities for "aloneness" in the family?

3. Can "aloneness" be overdone in the home? How?

4. Discuss the ideal house, from the standpoint of making family aloneness possible. (Some members of your group might wish to consider this, when they move to a new home.)

◆ To Be Needed

(Continued from page 9)

he mentioned standing up to the preacher, Daddy told me what he had to. He told me how I was getting on a bit and it wasn't fitting. I mind how I felt, but he was good to me, and maybe he knew what was right."

She hesitated and added softly, "Yet just because I was getting along, it used to come to me that it was my last chance to bring up a family. I was too old then to have a good-sized family like other people. But, you know what I used to think?" Her eyes twinkled and shone in the shadows. "I used to think, I'd love to have twins! Getting married late like that, if I could just have twins, there'd be a family and I wouldn't care too much if God didn't send more."

Torn between compassion and objection, Mary protested. "Oh, Annie—twins! Two tiny babies to be fed at once, two babies teething and crawling at the same time!"

Annie laughed quietly but her voice was firm as she went on. "No, I knew what it might be like, but it was the last chance, you know. I didn't think of it like two babies to do for at once. I was thinking of two babies to love because there might not be any more."

There was a moment's quiet. Then she said, "But Daddy said it wasn't fitting to marry at my age. And I didn't think so often of those dear little twins later. When Daddy was old it was a fine thing to be able to care for him."

Mary felt Len's hand close over hers. She rocked slowly in the rocker that matched Annie's and she closed her eyes. Later she would sort out all the thoughts about dangling candy in front of a child, about not needing candy at thirty-nine, but needing maturity and a last chance. Hers had been such plans for the older children. Now, for the first time in thirty years, she remembered the lovely joy that flooded through her when her Mother first eased into her small arms a tiny baby sister. She remembered her delight in helping, in amusing, and loving the dear baby.

She rocked slowly, peacefully.

And Annie, her eyes still keen enough to notice the small movement of Len's hand, felt for a minute the old loneliness. Then warm comfort returned; no, she never had those twins, but then the Ritchie ladies needed her, didn't they?

◆ II. There Must Be Growth in the Family Toward Togetherness

(Continued from page 27)

have made concerning how a feeling of togetherness may be achieved in families.

Discussion-Questions

1. How can "togetherness" be developed in a family whose children's ages are very different? (Example: toddler, 5, 10, and 15 years old.)

2. How can families whose members are no longer all living together (children away at school or married) preserve a feeling of togetherness? Couldn't they bother trying to do so?

3. What are each family member's duties in developing "togetherness" (father, mother, young child, and old child)?

4. Can togetherness be overdone in the home? How, and why?

◆ Biblegram

(Biblegram on page 6)

SOLUTION: "Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful (1 Cor. 13:4-5).

The Words

- A Lotion
- B Spoon
- C Oblong
- D Idiot
- E Indian
- F Write
- G Join
- H Train
- I Buoy
- J State
- K Forest
- L Ruler
- M Nooks
- N Drove
- O Aunts
- P Used
- Q Wolves
- R Trail
- S Insist
- T Voter
- U Lean
- V Stair
- W Stole
- X Faint



family Counselor

Should children play with guns?

Q DOES PLAYING WITH GUNS stem from Christ's teaching or the world's? Should Christian parents permit such play? Will impressions of such play prove beneficial to the child's future?

I am enclosing a clipping from our daily paper, telling of a three-year-old who accidentally shot a playmate, injuring her severely. Don't you think that this three-year-old had seen others playing with guns—seeing the person who was shot get up again. This child did not know the danger or mean to hurt anyone. Don't you think parents should be warned that it is a dangerous game?

A YOU ARE CORRECT, of course, in assuming that the three-year-old did not realize the danger of playing with a loaded gun and therefore should not be held responsible for what happened. The parents are at fault here. It seems incomprehensible that they would have permitted a loaded gun to be lying around where a three-year-old might pick it up. As you suggest, she probably had seen children play with toy guns and quite naturally imitated their actions when she picked up the real gun. But this extreme case should not be the basis for conclusions concerning playing with toy guns.

First of all, there are those who feel, as you apparently do, that to let children play with toy guns is

not only contrary to Christ's teachings, but that such play will create in children the feeling that problems should be settled by force rather than by persuasion and logic. It is assumed by some, that such play causes children to become unconcerned about the rights of others and indifferent to injury and death. The argument continues that these children may grow up addicted to the use of force in settling international disputes and that as adults, they will be "warlike" in their attitudes rather than lovers of peace.

If it could be proved or demonstrated that playing with toy guns inevitably resulted in the development of the attitudes mentioned above, all Christians would have to be opposed to such play. There are many sincere Christians who are not at all certain that such consequences are inevitable—or even likely. They recall their own childhood when they enjoyed the excitement of being chased—and of chasing others. They recall, too, that even as children they realized they were playing games and the shooting was never thought of as being "real." They were not really cruel or vicious. There seems to be no evidence that playing with guns makes one an advocate of war.

For a child who lives in a happy home where he is loved and ac-

cepted, the playing with guns is simply another game, a game in which there is drama and excitement, and such play should not cause parents to worry. On the other hand, if a child has a very unhappy home life, has difficulty getting along with his peers, and lives in an undesirable community environment in which there is much violence and juvenile delinquency, the playing with guns may not only be a means of expressing hostility, but may also be a prelude to or preparation for the use of actual firearms or other lethal weapons. Even then, the playing with guns is not the actual culprit—instead it is the home and the community that must bear the blame for the delinquency.

What has been said above is not to be considered as an appeal for encouraging children to play with guns. Even though such play may not have the dire consequences predicted above, it is true that gun play is not especially creative in nature and it is unfortunate if this type of play consumes a great deal of the child's time. Parents should make every effort to provide their children with creative play materials and to guide them into activities that are far more constructive than simply playing with guns. If this is done, gun play will be of minor importance in the life of the child.

Donald M. Maynard

The Family Counselor is Head of the Department of Religious Education, Boston University, School of Theology.

(Continued from page 23)

calling card, and the advertising cards with which firms deluged prospective customers during the latter half of the nineteenth century. At any rate, few American cards were published before 1900. Collections began immediately, and from 1900 to 1910, manufacturers engaged in fantastic skirmishes to outdo each other and to keep pace with the demand.

Every conceivable and a few inconceivable materials were used: Leather, pressed bamboo, birch bark, celluloid, aluminium, copper, peat, and tinsel, among others.

If materials used ran riot, types of construction were not far behind. Appliquéd cards reached a thickness of two inches. Satin, plain and embroidered, was used for appliqué and inserts. Lace designs were stamped into perforated cards. There was also the marquetry, or inlaid card; the transparency, or hold-to-the-light card that shows a beautiful scene in normal light and the same scene changed only by an appearance of nighttime-illumination when held before a lamp; cards with phonograph records that could actually be played; cards that squeaked in simulation of the animal whose picture they carried; and cards with miniature built-in instruments.

Still under the heading of construction were cards with jointed sections and movement. Growing more complicated was the card to be cut out and assembled for animation, and the per-

petual calendar card in which dates could be changed by setting disks.

Although reasons for collecting, topics of specialization, and advantages of the hobby are innumerable, by design there are only three definite card types. First, there is the view card, the backbone of the hobby. Second, there is the greeting card, which to a great extent has withdrawn from the ranks of the collected because it is now usually enclosed in an envelope. Finally, there is the comic. This card has been contaminated somewhat but, if well chosen, is still good for a chuckle.

To start a collection, search your desk, attic, shelves, bureau drawers, and all those other places you have intended to straighten up anyway. Tell your neighbors of your new interest. Write to long-neglected friends and relatives. Join a deltiology club—by correspondence if necessary—or organize one. Browse through secondhand stores. A few hobbyists even take some of their own pictures and have them printed post card size.

Catalogues and price lists are available for many foreign cards, and are beginning to appear for some American cards. However, prices are set primarily by supply and demand.

Be patient while you wait for your collection to grow. Remember there is no better time to study the story behind your cards than when your collection is small. Many collectors deliberately keep their collections small, perhaps with this in mind. By studying the story behind her cards, one deltiologist acquired a remarkable fund of knowledge concerning royalty of many na-

tions; of our own presidents; of master painters; of music composers.

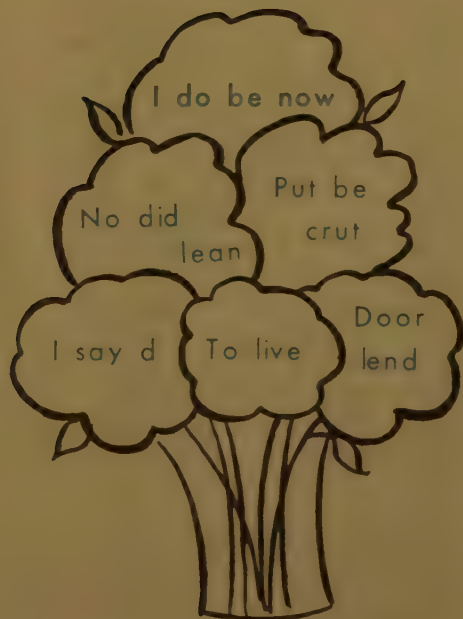
"Often a certain post card starts discussion at our house," Larry's mother relates, "that brings out the encyclopedia, the Bible, the atlas, the dictionary, and Bartlett's *Familiar Quotations*. Not necessarily in that order, of course.

For storage, post card albums with looseleaf pages are available. These have special slits in the proper position to hold six to eight cards per page, tucking the card's corners into the slits. A special tool is on the market for slipping pages of a scrapbook or photographic album in conformation. Art corners may be used. However, veteran deltiologists warn against pasting cards down or using hinges. Both sides of the card, as well as the stamp, are important. Post cards, unlike stamps, cannot be washed.

Some collectors store their cards in file boxes (shoe boxes are hard to beat) with dividers indicating sections by post card subject or by topics of specialization. Others use a file box for the general cards and albums for special topics.

While the direct advantages of deltiology should never be minimized, perhaps its most important advantage is the positive interest created within the individual. After spending some time with his hobby, the deltiologist can return to his everyday problems and view them without undue distortion.

Also, when post card collecting is a family hobby, do not forget to multiply all its advantages by the number of members in the family and add the common interest factor.



WILD FLOWERS

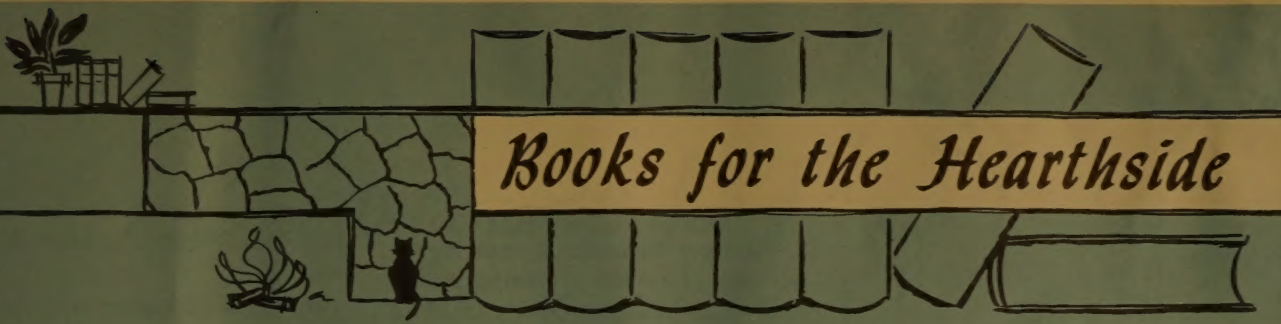
By

Ollie James

Robertson

This bouquet is made up of wild flowers. The letters are scrambled. Can you rearrange them in proper order to see what flowers are in the pot.

Answers: woodbine, buttercup, dandelion, daisy, violet, goldenrod



Books for the Hearthside

✧ For Adults ✧

The book **For Better Church Members** (The Bethany Press, St. Louis, Mo., 1961, 112 pages, \$1.50) is planned to help the new convert find fulfillment in his new faith and become a useful member of the church. The author was confronted with this problem when in a church he served 116 persons were received on a single Sunday. The book is a result of interviews held with these new church members. The book is also useful to persons who are concerned that new members be assimilated actively in the life and work of the church. For such persons, the book reviews some of the questions, anticipations, and needs of the new members. Such a review should strike a responsive cord so that more empathy and more understanding can be achieved in relationships with new members. Not a how-to-do-it but rather a you-can-do-it or a you-may-do-it book—this book should be useful, then, for those sincerely seeking to cultivate redemptive fellowship in the church.

Lifting up questions—"Where Are You? What Do You See? How Can I Give You Up? What Are You Doing Here?" and others, the author Hunter Beckelhymer develops a very provocative book of sermons entitled **Questions God Asks** (Abingdon Press, New York, 1961, 142 pages, \$2.50). Each chapter includes the short passage of scripture from which the questions are lifted up for consideration, brought into present-day focus, and applied to the relevant situations of our day.

Roadside Tables (The Bethany Press, St. Louis, Missouri, 1961, 112 pages, \$2.45) is a book of ten devotional studies built around the phrase from the psalmist, "He prepares a table." Christianity began at a roadside table in an upper room. Today we know the roadside table as a place of refreshment, and so we are invited via this book to refresh ourselves spiritually.

The author Alberta Lunger is an ordained minister; a graduate with honors from Yale Divinity School. Mrs. Lunger has served as a pastor and as copastor with her husband.

John W. Klotz, both a clergyman and a scientist is the author of **Modern Science in the Christian Life** (Con-

cordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Mo., 1961, 191 pages including a Bibliography, Index of Topics, and Index of Scripture Passages, \$1.75). The three purposes of this book are (1) to establish genuine appreciation of the many blessings we have received from God through science, (2) to encourage the continual pursuit of truth through science, and (3) to point out the need for religion in guiding a Christian's decisions on moral problems in this present age of science.

A look at chapter headings will help to give a picture of the contents. They are as follows:

1. The Physical Sciences and Our Material Prosperity
2. Modern Biology and Medicine
3. The *modus operandi* of Science
4. Science and the Supernatural
5. Differences of Opinion
6. Complexity in Nature
7. Antiscientific Trends and Attitudes
8. Ethical and Moral Problems Raised by Science

✧ For Young People ✧

Other Bible Lands (Abingdon Press, Nashville, 1961, 156 pages) is the title of an informative and fascinating book by Bahija Lovejoy, a native of Mosul, Iraq. The eight other Bible countries are Arabia, Iraq, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Turkey, and Iran. The following information in very readable style is given concerning each of the countries: its land, people, history, agriculture, trade, transportation, family life, and religion. Information given is oftentimes related to a Bible quotation. The illustrations by Robert A. Jones are informative and quite attractive. Maps of the great empires up to 44 B.C. and maps of the eight countries are an attractive feature. Also a Time Chart of Bible History related to all of the various empires is presented. This book would be an attractive possession for personal use as well as for church school or church library use.

Charles M. Schulz, creator of "Peanuts" is the author of **Young Pillars** (The Warner Press, Anderson, Indiana, 1958, unpagged, \$1). This is a book of cartoons dealing with humor in the life of church young people, but at the same time it presents a message about

the well-balanced Christian life. Try it, the book is irresistible.

✧ For Children ✧

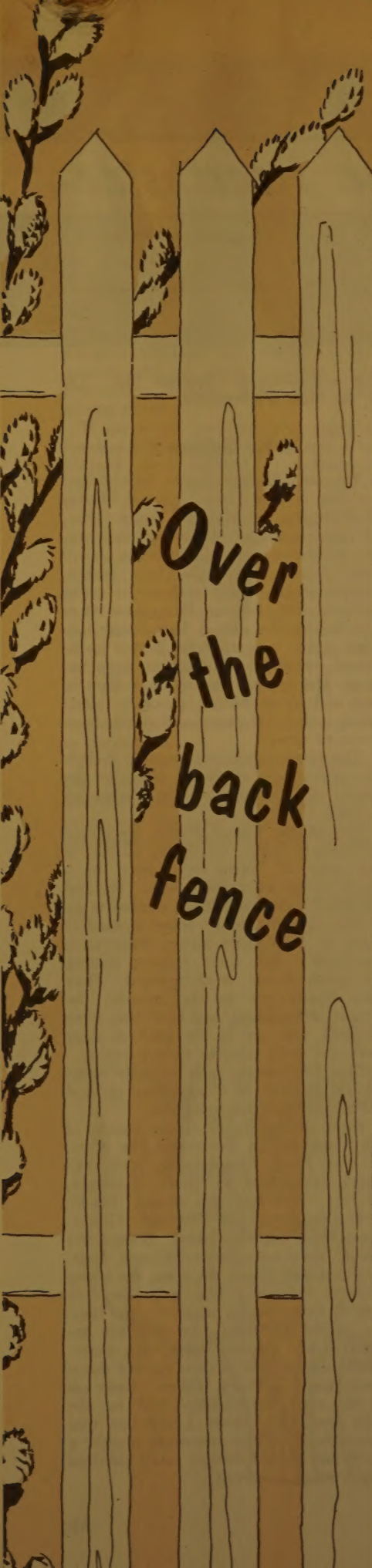
Two new Bethany books for children are just off the press. One is **Marica of Paraguay**, by Marjorie Spice (1961, 96 pages, \$2.50). Marica enters a new life when she goes to Asunción to live with Aunt Maria, the lace maker. Marica seems unable to learn to make ñandutí, the famous Paraguayan lace, and finally she gets a babysitting job. This makes it possible for her to go to school, which she had never done before. Her experiences with new friends, and with Aunt Maria, make an interesting story for boys and girls from seven to eleven.

The charming illustrations by Joseph Escourido help to make clear to the reader the customs of the Paraguayan people.

Boy of the Congo Forest, by Grace McGavran (1961, 96 pages, \$2.50), is the story of Inoyo, who lived in a small village near the jungle. He and his good friend, Bolumba, wanted to go to the mission school. Inoyo wanted to learn to be a male nurse; Bolumba a mechanic. But their fathers, fearing the witch doctor, were opposed. How they finally got to the mission, the dreams they shared, and how these were realized, add up to the kind of story boys and girls nine to twelve enjoy.

Miss McGavran, who recently spent several months in Congo, has painted the illustrations for her book.

Ruth Bishop Juline is the author of **The Lost Indian Treasure** (The Westminster Press, Philadelphia, 1960, 143 pages, illustrated by Betty Hessemer, \$2.95). Pod has two sisters, Toadie and Arizony. They live with Grandpappy and Grandmammy. Besides the family, there were Judas the horse, Josie, Clarabel and Sugar the cows, the sheep and the chickens. The major problem was to have enough water for the family, stock, and farm. Imagine the delight of the children when the water-witch man arrives at their tumble down rocky farm in Posey Holler. Later on in the story, the children look for the cave that their Aunt Leafy has told them about. Their adventure is quite a thrill and should delight small children (ages seven to eleven).



Over the back fence

The Summer Is Ending

Another summer is drawing to a close. Families are being pulled in two directions. Many of them are giving much of their thought and time to vacations. But in the background of the minds of mothers, especially, is the thought that school will be opening in a short time and children must be made ready for it.

In one sense most children will be about ready for it. With some exceptions they will be glad to get back into the swing of school activities. The summer vacation season is always enjoyable and the freedom from responsibility greatly appreciated but toward the end of summer children begin to anticipate school. So they will be ready and willing when it is ready for them.

Parents have the task of getting clothing ready for the school year. They have also a greater responsibility to think once more of their relationship to the whole experience of education for their children.

Most parents probably do not think seriously enough of the fact that they, too, are teachers. The entire educational task is not one that can be passed to the school system, either public or private. Academic matters will be handled there, of course, with a little help from Mother or Dad in the homework assignments. However, parents, by their attitudes and actions, are teaching their children many things of basic importance to life in our kind of world.

Parents teach a fundamental respect for the importance of education or they achieve the opposite result either directly or by default. By criticism of teachers, administration, program, or any other aspect of the educational system they directly influence children to disregard the value of education. By a lack of concern, failure to participate in community support of education, disinterest in

everything related to the school they downgrade education by default.

In much the same way do parents educate their children in integrity or lack of it, in respect for persons or a disregard for them, in a desire to understand others rather than to judge too quickly, in cultivating attitudes of eagerness and wonder rather than living like unresponsive clods, in assumption of responsibility for cultivating community co-operation and development instead of "letting the rest of the world go by." These and many other "things of the spirit" do parents teach.

So part of the month of August could well be given by parents to get themselves ready for their teaching tasks.

Are you ready for school?

Do You Have a Parents' Group?

Is there a parents' group meeting in your church? If not, have you considered getting a group of parents together, having children of about the same age, and talking together about your common concerns? If so have you also considered using *Hearthstone* as a resource for such a group?

A number of churches have established *Hearthstone* classes or study groups and are regularly using the program articles which appear each month. Enough material and guidance suggestions are provided to enable any group to hold weekly meetings using these helps.

You can be of real assistance to *Hearthstone's* editors if you will write and tell us about your experience in using the program articles and suggestions. What additional helps do you need? What kind of topics for discussion would you like that we have not offered? What else can we do that will make your groups more valuable?

Let us hear from you!

1 Corinthians 13 for Parents

by Leona Frances Choy

Love is patient

With the slowness of children
Or their ceaseless activity
With fumbling hands and stumbling feet
With daily tiresome routine
With constant repetition of instructions

Love is kind

In treating misbehavior
In disciplining, not rough

Love is not jealous

Of the material or social advantages of the offspring of others

Love is not boastful

Of the superiorities of one's own children, as if they were all budding geniuses

Love is not arrogant

For the little ones are not only our creation but direct gifts from God

Love is not rude

To others whom God has not entrusted with the sacred position of parenthood

Love does not insist on its own way

When a child has his own way too,
usually more reasonable to him than ours

Love is not irritable

When things go wrong and everything seems to happen at once
When commands are disobeyed
When we are tired and distraught

Love is not resentful

When our own work is interrupted
When our own pleasure or rest must be set aside for the sake of the children

Love does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right

Looks not for errors to censure in the children but for things to commend
Rejoices in the truth that children are real persons with emotions and sensitivities and treats them as such

Love bears all things

Even the things that other people don't have to put up with

Love believes all things

That godly and diligent raising will bear fruit in physical and spiritual maturity

Love hopes all things

That in answer to prayer, young lives will grow up to usefulness and the glorification of God

Love endures all things

Absolutely ANYTHING that may come along

Love never ends

Love never has a LAST STRAW beyond which it loses control!



Photo by Francis E. Barnes

B E T H A N Y B O O K S f o r C h i l d r e n

MARICA OF PARAGUAY by Marjorie Spice. Ten-year-old Marica and her experiences show boys and girls about the colorful customs, ways of thinking and living of the people in far-off Paraguay. Illustrated. Ages 7-11. \$2.50

BOY OF THE CONGO FOREST by Grace McGavran. One gains an understanding of life in Africa through reading this story of twelve-year-old Inoyo. Illustrated. Ages 9-12. \$2.50

NEW FRIENDS FOR PEPE by Anne M. Halliday. Little Pepe learns how to make friends in this story of a boy and his itinerant family. Illustrated. Ages 3-6. \$1.75

THE NEW LITTLE FUZZY GREEN WORM by Jessie Brown Marsh. A wonderful story about God's world to strike a responsive chord in the very young. Illustrated. Ages 3-5. \$1.75

CUDDLE BEAR OF PINEY FOREST by Anne M. Halliday. How Cuddle spends his days in the forest while unconsciously bent on the glorious adventure of "growing up" is told here. Illustrated. Ages 6-9. \$2.50

GENERAL JIM by Hazel Davis. From his boyhood to the presidency, James Garfield's life is retold for children. Ages 10-up. \$3.00

OUR HAPPY FAMILY by Mabel A. Niedermeyer (McCaw). Youngsters learn from Susan how to be part of happy family. Illustrated. Ages 3-5. \$1.50

THEN I THINK OF GOD by Mabel A. Niedermeyer (McCaw). A book of devotionals arranged according to month and seasons. Ages 6-10. \$1.75

BALTI by Ella Huff Kepple. An interesting story on child life in central Mexico. Illustrated. Ages 7-11. \$2.50

ALL THROUGH THE YEAR by Grace McGavran. A collection of original poems and stories on the seasons of the year. Illustrated. Ages 8-12. \$2.50

CACTUS by Virginia W. Struble. A brave little porcupine learns how to "be himself." Illustrated. Ages 6-9. \$1.75

THIS IS GOD'S WORLD by Mabel A. Niedermeyer (McCaw). The importance of stewardship is stressed for boys and girls. Ages 8-11. \$1.75

SOME TIME EVERY DAY by Mabel A. Niedermeyer (McCaw). Scripture selections, prayers and poems for children. Ages 9-11. \$1.75

WEMBI by Alice D. Cobble. Authentic African folk tale retold by a village elder. Illustrated. All ages. \$2.75

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
Box 179, St. Louis 66, Missouri

THE AMERICAN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY
1703 Chestnut St., Philadelphia 3, Pa.